

Hafa Adai!

Happy Liberation Day!

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75¢

CUC board demands aggressive leak repair

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

After being pounded by questions on perennial water leaks and feeling the brunt of criticism for a proposed reverse osmosis system in hearings with lawmakers last week, the Commonwealth Utilities Corps. board directed CUC management to come up with a plan of action and scope of work immediately and suggested emergency hires to expand repair crew to fix water leaks around the island.

ment to come up with a plan of action and scope of work immediately and suggested emergency hires to expand repair crew to fix water leaks around the island.

At a board meeting Thursday, director Ignacio Perez said they were pounded by lawmakers on

- » Threatens executives with disciplinary action
- » CUC board on Senate/House hearings: Caught with our zippers open

Wednesday and Monday who were “asking for specifics” about the reported 67 percent in unaccounted distributed water. He said he assured they would develop a monthly report to see the decreases in these unaccounted for percentages. Presenting without answers felt like, “standing there with your zipper open,” he said.

Perez asked for an “intelligence report” on these leaks and water manager Richard Wasser, called to address the board, said as far as the 67 percent number, the utility has complied data for March, April, and May on the total production of water wells and the total billing numbers from the accounting department. He said even

See CUC on Page 4

Tip leads to the identification of suspect in robbery at 2 poker parlors

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER



A Crime Stoppers’ tip led police to identify the suspect in daylight robberies of two poker parlors on Saipan during a four-day period.

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Christine Roque is 2016 LibDay Queen

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Christine Roque was crowned this year’s Royal Court Queen to lead the 23 other candidates—including Royal Princess Coryn A.

Achas, First Princess Cornessa M. Dela Cruz, and Princess Jamilla P. Alegre—in today’s 71st Liberation Day Parade.

The 2016 Royal Court and the other candidates will be one of the more than 10 floats that will join this year’s Liberation Day parade

along with the Saipan Awa-odori team and the Koenji Awa-odori Association, Vietnam War veterans, a U.S. Navy marching band from Guam, and other associations and members.

The coronation was held last Friday at the

See CHRISTINE on Page 4

JON PEREZ
Liberation Day Queen Christine Roque, center, joins the other members of the 2016 Royal Court, distinguished guests, Liberation Day committee members, and last year’s Royal Court for a group photo after last Friday’s coronation night at the carnival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base.

Songsong gets 78 months in jail for possession of child pornography. PAGE 2
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INSIDE



LOCAL

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services graduated its newest batch of firefighters last Friday at Fiesta Resort & Spa’s Hibiscus Hall.

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WORLD

The hostages were given a test: recite verses from the Quran, or be punished, according to a witness.

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LIFE & STYLE

Celebrating her 100th birthday Friday, indomitable actress Olivia de Havilland is finally breaking her silence on Hollywood’s most famous sibling rivalry.

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GOT A NEWS TIP?

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2013-2016 ILX
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2010-2013- ZDX

HONDA

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Local

Songsong gets 78 months in jail for possession of child pornography

Vincent M. Songsong, a 32-year-old man who entered a guilty plea to accusations of having in his possession a laptop computer that contained 226 videos involving the use of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct, was sentenced to six years and six months in prison on Friday in federal court.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona said Songsong will be given credit for time served and after completing the prison term, will be placed on supervised release for three years.

Songsong has been in detention since he was arrested on Nov. 24, 2014.

Manglona required the defendant to participate in the sex offender treatment program and register as a sex offender.

Songsong was ordered to pay \$5,000 in restitution to at least one victim, who pursued for such payment.

"I believe the severity of this offense speaks for itself," Manglona said.

The judge said it is one of the most egregious crimes as the most innocent individuals not only in this community but also in other jurisdictions were re-victimized with defendant's conduct.

Manglona said from downloading of videos containing child pornography, Songsong started actually taking videos of children by himself.

Manglona noted that those children in the videos and images are all true people.

She said the videos included children physically tortured and that to share such videos

to others it just exacerbates the victims' travesty.

Manglona said having the defendant recognized his mistake is a good starting point.

The judge said at his young age, Songsong will be soon released back to the community, and that the court will make sure that at that time he would no longer be a threat to the community.

Before the sentence was handed down, Songsong apologized to the court for his behavior and his crime.

Songsong said he has caused shame to his family, friends, and most especially to the victims.

"Over two years I developed addiction to child pornography," he confessed.

Songsong said upon reading one of the victims' statements, he realized that he hurt these victims.

"It hurt me because I have a daughter. I'm ashamed of my actions," he said.

Songsong said he wants to participate in a sex offender treatment program and do the right thing.

Assistant U.S. attorney Russell H. Lorffing recommended a sentence of 78 months imprisonment, which is the lowest end in the sentencing guideline range.

Lorffing said the court should send a strong message to the community as thousands of images of child pornography are involved in this case.

Lorffing said defendant's former wife was interviewed and disclosed that he was abusive and that his behavior terrorized her.

Defense attorney Colin

Thompson recommended the lowest end in the sentencing guideline range. He said his client recognized his crime and wants to undergo treatment.

U.S. Probation Officer Margarita Wonenberg recommended 97 months imprisonment, which is the highest end in the sentencing guideline range.

Songsong signed a plea deal with the U.S. government. He pleaded guilty last Dec. 3 to an indictment charging him with one count of possession of child pornography.

The offense carries a maximum penalty of 20 years imprisonment, a \$250,000 fine, a \$100 special assessment, and a three-year supervised release.

Songsong told the court that he downloaded child pornography videos from the computer. He said he downloaded the videos not knowing the consequences.

The defendant, however, stated he did not watch all 226 videos.

Lorffing said that, from Feb. 17 to 25, 2014, Songsong downloaded all the 226 videos and installed them in his folder entitled "My Shared Folder."

Lorffing said the defendant knew that the production of such visual depiction involved the use of a minor—specifically, a prepubescent minor or a minor who had not attained 12 years old—engaging in sexually explicit conduct.

The prosecutor at that change of plea hearing disclosed that at least four victims had been contacted, but only three will be pursuing restitution against the defendant.

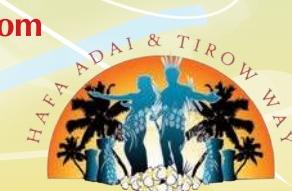
According to the indictment, from Feb. 17, 2014, until Feb. 25, 2014, Songsong knowingly possessed a laptop computer containing visual depiction of a child less than 12 years old engaging in sex. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

tion, travel insurance, **Marianas Guidebook**, and more. The promotion was featured on the Tour 2000 website, via DM, and via social media channels.

For far this fiscal year, visitor arrivals from Korea exceed 119,000, making Korea the second largest source market of the Northern Marianas.

www.mymarianas.com

Saipan
Tinian
Rota



Authority (MVA) conducted the destination campaign Tour 2000 for the Northern Marianas in May and June 2016.

Tour 2000 offered 4N/5D packages at **Hyatt Regency Saipan**, sold through Ticket Monster. The package included Hyatt Regency Saipan ocean view room upgrade and club lounge, **Managaha** optional tour, airport transporta-

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Govendo converts to house arrest Mondala's 1-year prison sentence

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo has converted to house arrest the one-year prison sentence that then-associate judge David A. Wiseman slapped against former Office of Aging director Rose DLG Mondala for her conviction of corruption charges.

In granting Mondala's motion to reduce her sentence on Thursday, Govendo stressed his admiration of Wiseman's sentencing order and stated that he understands the goals intended by Wiseman's sentencing decision.

However, Govendo said, he must weigh the risks of defendant's fragility and the possible adverse effect a prolonged imprisonment would have on her health.

"The ends of justice will not be had if the punishment causes defendant her life," he said.

Govendo said his order is a rare and difficult one for him to make and is not intended to apply broadly to all inmates who suffer from various illnesses and of old age.

Rather, the judge said, his order stresses a case-by-case review.

Govendo said the 71-year-old Mondala may only leave her house for medical and hospital care.

Govendo said Mondala may leave her house to meet with her attorney, attend church, and court proceedings.

The judge ordered the Department of Public Safety

to perform routine random checks to ensure that defendant is complying with the court's order.

Govendo said in the event that Mondala does not comply, after a hearing, the court may impose jail time.

Govendo said all other sentencing conditions imposed in Wiseman's order shall remain in effect.

Govendo, however, denied Mondala's motion to correct the restitution portion of Wiseman's order.

The judge set the restitution hearing for Oct. 11, 2016 at 1:30pm.

Govendo issued the order after Mondala, through counsel Loren Sutton, moved to correct or reduce the one-year prison term slapped against her by Wiseman. Wiseman is now a retired judge.

Mondala asked Govendo instead to sentence him to home confinement.

Sutton cited the sentences imposed on former governor Benigno R. Fitial and former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham who were "spared" a jail sentence for health reasons.

Sutton said to achieve the sentencing goal of consistency, Mondala should receive the same consideration given to Fitial and Buckingham.

Sutton said in sentencing Fitial and Buckingham, the court based a lenient sentence on poor health factors and where the charges of conviction were of a more serious nature and involved persons in high positions who committed acts of

corruption exceeding the nature of the acts of Mondala.

Mondala filed the motion to correct or reduce sentence after Govendo recently suggested to her counsel, Sutton, to file a motion for reconsideration of the sentence as he placed her motion to stay execution of the prison term pending her appeal to the CNMI Supreme Court.

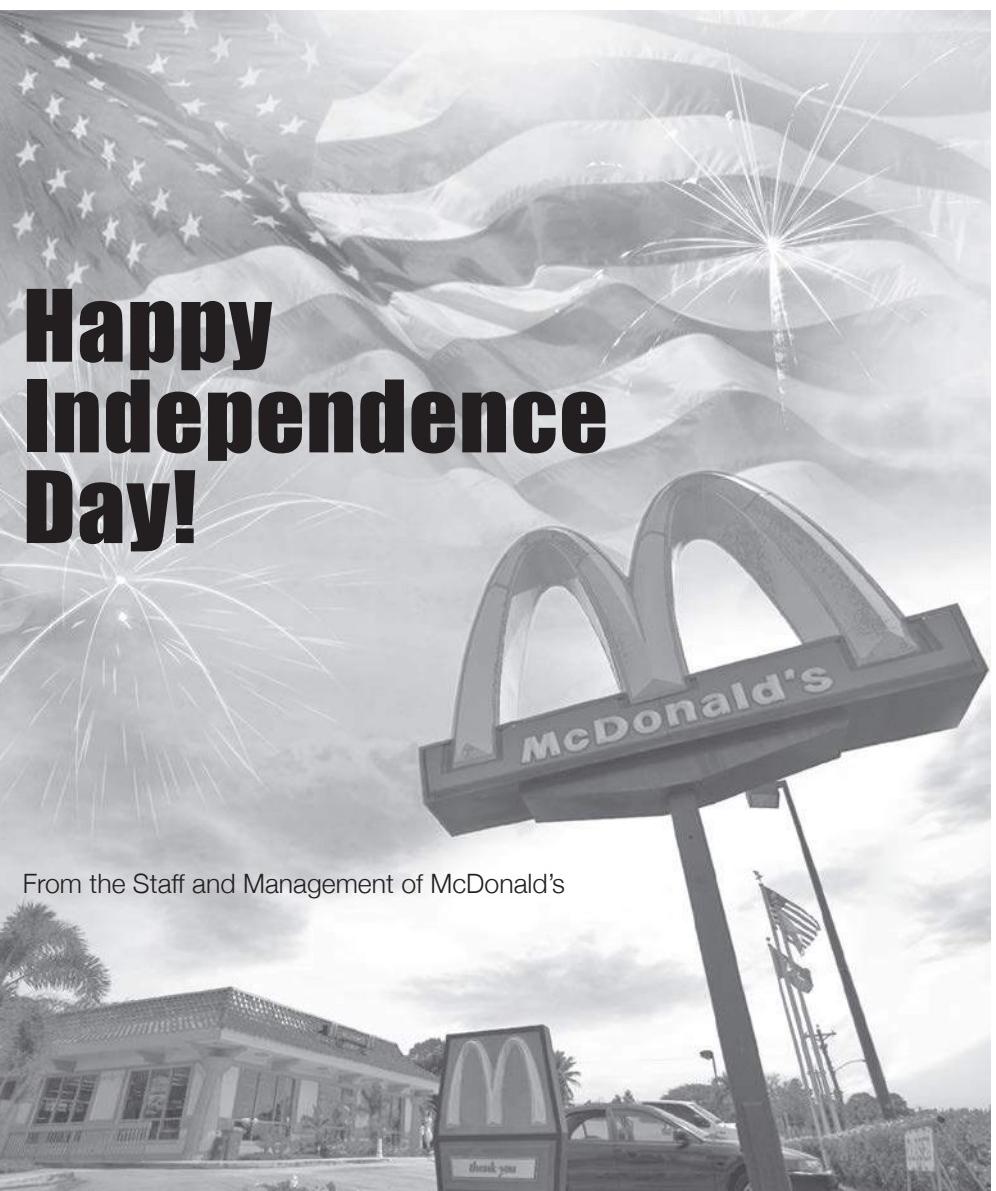
In Mondala's motion to correct or reduce sentence, Sutton said his client's guilty plea to one count of felony forgery with a loss of \$68, and one count of misdemeanor use of public supplies, time and personnel for campaign activities, was entered pursuant to a plea bargain where the Office of the Attorney General recommended six months of home confinement in lieu of jail time.

Sutton said this recommendation in the plea offer was justified due to Mondala's serious medical condition.

On the reduction issue, Sutton said Mondala is seriously ill with a variety of life-threatening medical conditions, which Govendo is aware from Dr. Vicente Aldan's comprehensive letter.

Sutton said his concern, as

See GOVENDO on Page 4



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Rain or shine, LibDay Parade to push through

Despite the threat of rain, the community is expected to come out and join the festive mood of this year's 71st Liberation Day Parade. The parade begins at 9am starting at Quartermaster Road to the Liberation Day Carnival grounds across Kristo Rai church.

Tents and tables have already been set up along Beach Road, the parade route, as families are expected to spend the day with their other relatives and friends

Tropical depression Nepartak to bring showers to Marianas today

A tropical depression that has formed south of Guam has been intensifying and is expected to become a tropical storm that would bring showers and thunderstorms to the Mariana Islands last night and during the day today, Monday.

According to the U.S. National Weather Service in

in a reunion of sorts in a street party-like atmosphere.

Some even put ropes around certain areas and several pavilions to reserve the spot, while others are going to spend the night by pitching tents.

Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang said today's celebration is dedicated to honor the period in the CNMI's history where a number of people gave up their lives. "For 71 years, we the people of these great chain

Guam, as of 5pm yesterday, Tropical Depression Nepartak was spotted 50 miles northeast of Faraulep, 310 miles east of Fais, 370 miles east of Ulithi, 470 miles east of Yap, and 295 miles south of Guam.

Packing maximum sustained winds at 35 miles per hour, Nepartak was mov-

ing northeast at 5mph and is expected to turn to the northwest with an increase in forward speed in the next 12 hours.

NWS said Nepartak will bring showers and some thunderstorms along with winds of 15 to 25 mph with gusts to 30mph to the Mari-

ana Islands last night and during the day today.

NWS urged residents of the Marianas to closely monitor the progress of Nepartak by keeping up with NWS' and Emergency Management Office's latest statements and advisories. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

age may not be the most accurate, he said, but they should see a trend and see unaccounted for water to go down.

The board was criticized by a lawmaker last week for their apparent fondness for a proposed RO system to address water woes.

On Thursday, the board appeared to stand by its support for RO and one director suggested that if fixing leaks failed at addressing water issues, then this would "answer" the lawmaker's concern about the real need of the RO system.

"Saipan really needs the RO system," said director Albert Taitano. "I don't know why the Legislature is not supporting it but they should support it."

"We have been bombarded by leaks, leaks, leaks," said director Joe Torres, urging that manpower be boosted in areas with leaks and asking questions on how many staff were on the repair program.

Wasser said they had a two-

man crew working under an engineering project that found and repaired leaks, and on an operation side, they had a repair crew of about 10 staff. "They are swamped with the leaks that are visible" and responding to leaks that are reported through CUC's call center, he said.

Wasser also said they hired one more staff member and are set to hire three more. "We are not turning anyone away," he said, on recent hiring efforts. "It's the best we can do with the staff that we can have."

"This Legislature don't want to wait," said Torres.

Torres suggested "emergency hires" of three crews fixing leaks north, central, and to the south of Saipan daily.

If this crew can go out there and "attack" and "we still don't have water, then I guess our answer is supplied," Torres said.

He suggested emergency hires of a 10-man crew with equipment to search for leaks.

Acting executive director Gary Camacho stressed that they'd need to "outsource" the project and that it had to be "large scale" with manpower and equipment and professionals and experts not only for quick identification of leaks but for development of staff.

"I don't expect any debate," said director Eric San Nicolas, adding he wanted information on scope of work for the project and plan of action "yesterday."

"That was my biggest frustration the last two hearings," he said, adding that they needed to be proactive. "If you are getting paid a hundred grand, you better be doing more than 100 grand. I expect that from every manager" and the executive director's office. "If someone is not doing it, by god, we need disciplinary action to be taken."

A longer version of this story is available at www.saipantribune.com

& Comer to release the final tally of the funds raised by all 24 candidates.

Zolenska Yaroitemal, in her farewell speech, said she just expected to become one of the Princesses of last year's Royal Court. She then thanked everyone who became part of her one-year reign.

"I thanked my Northern Island and Yapese communities, family, parents, and all who made my reign worthwhile. I bonded with my Royal Court but more importantly we helped in various community projects," said Yaroitemal.

Dela Cruz placed third (First Princess), while Alegre, who failed to attend the event as she was working last Friday night, was fourth.

Nikela Teregeyo Masayos

Liberation Day Carnival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base. Roque was the first from the Filipino community to be crowned Liberation Day Queen joining other first-time winners from different ethnicities—Minnie Ta (Chinese and Filipino) and Yvonne Passi (Samoa).

Not even a close to 10-minute rain damped the festive mood. After that interval, where all candidates scurried their way on the stage while Skywalker Communications Group staff and volunteers scampered to keep the speakers from getting wet, the program reached the coronation.

A representative from accounting firm Burger & Com-

er P.C. handed over the envelope to Saipan Mayor David M. Apatang. Mistress of ceremony Rose Ajoste made the announcement starting with the princesses until the final three candidates.

Ernie Molina oversaw the

training of the candidates

since the first day and choreographed the coronation night.

Northern Island Mayor Jerome Aldan, his counterpart on Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, acting Rota Mayor George O. Hocog—the chairman of the 15th Rota Municipal Council—Saipan Municipal Council member Alice Igitol, Skywalker Communications Group managing director Dr. Hu Bo, Liberation Day non-profit group head Louis Rogers, Liberation Day committee chair Chris Leon Guerrero, Royal Court overall head Rose Hocog, Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Chris Concepcion, and Japanese Consul Toshio Matsumura and his wife Kiyoko were present in the coronation night.

More than 10 floats are expected to join the parade with the 2016 Royal Court, led by Liberation Queen Christine Roque, and the other candidates joining community organizations and businesses.

The visiting Koenji-Awa-odori Association along with the Saipan Awa-odori Team,

the Vietnam War veterans, the Navy marching band from Guam, and the CNMI JROTC are also expected to join.

Just like last year, a 20-minute fireworks display will be held tonight at the Liberation Day Festivities grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base. (*Jon Perez*)

TIP

From Page 1

Crime Stoppers Program coordinator Jason Tarkong said yesterday that the tip led to the identification of Dwight

D. Lee Aldan as the suspect in the poker machine break-in and theft at Martha's Store poker room in Garapan and at Sun Palace Hotel's poker room in Susupe.

Tarkong said Aldan is at large and that law enforcement officers are hunting him down.

Tarkong is seeking the public's help in locating Aldan.

Tarkong said Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio issued an arrest warrant against Aldan on Friday and set a \$5,000 cash bail.

Tarkong described Aldan as a 41-year-old Chamorro, 5'6" tall, and has a mustache and may have a short goatee.

The suspect was carrying a backpack with Under Armour brand in both incidents. Both incidents were caught by surveillance cameras.

The suspect managed to get a poker machine's cash box containing \$5,231 cash from Sun Palace Hotel's poker room in Susupe last June 25 at noon and over \$30 in coins from Martha Retail Store's poker room in Garapan last Tuesday afternoon, June 28.

Tarkong said in the Martha's Store case, the suspect was wearing a blue boonie/bush hat with sunglasses on top of the hat, a gray hooded type sweater, checkered blue and gray shorts, and slippers.

Tarkong said the suspect drove away in an old model white Toyota Corolla four door-sedan with tinted windows.

In the Sun Palace Hotel's case, *Saipan Tribune* watched the video and observed the same suspect wearing the

same boonie/bush hat, checkered shorts, and slippers, and an Under Armour backpack.

The only difference is that the suspect was wearing a gray T-shirt. Witnesses said the suspect also fled aboard a white car.

Tarkong said the theft at Martha's Store's poker room was discovered when employees were searching for the poker machines' master key and could not find it.

Tarkong said the store manager reviewed the video surveillance and discovered the crime.

Tarkong said investigation showed that the suspect entered the store at 1:19pm and walked into the poker room.

The suspect approached the poker attendant's counter and grabbed the key for the poker machines.

The suspect then opened three poker machines, but managed to get only over \$30 in coins as the cash boxes in the machines were locked. He, however, caused damage worth about \$500 to one machine.

Tarkong said the suspect walked out, purchased a drink from the store, and drove away aboard a white Toyota Corolla car.

In the Susupe case, Sun Palace Hotel owner Shirley Kim told *Saipan Tribune* that the suspect came to the poker game room at 11:34am and pretended to be a customer.

Kim said when the suspect was alone in the game room, he opened one of the machines using a tool and removed the cash box and put it in his backpack.

The suspect, who was carrying a cell phone, then left at 12:26pm.

Kim said they discovered the robbery when one customer called the front desk when he noticed that there was a problem with one machine as its wirings were out dangling.

GOVENDO

From Page 3

well as of Govendo's, is that a sentence to the Department of Corrections could well endanger Mondala's health and that a missed or delayed insulin shot could even kill her.

Citing a previous U.S. Supreme Court ruling, Sutton said an order to pay restitution for dismissed counts after a plea is improper in the absence of a waiver contained in the

plea agreement.

Sutton said there was no such waiver in Mondala's plea agreement and even if there was, Wiseman was clear that he would accept the plea but without the AG's sentencing recommendation which included a recommendation for restitution.

Last May 31, Govendo granted for a week a stay of the execution of the one-year prison term. Mondala was supposed to start serving the prison term last June 1.

San Nicolas calls EPA ‘highly opinionated’

A Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board director derided a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency letter on issues with the utilities company’s vacant management positions as “highly opinionated” last week.

During a board meeting last Thursday, board Eric San Nicolas called board chair Adelina Roberto’s letter back to the EPA on the vacant positions a “great response.”

He called EPA’s comments “pretty opinionated...in my opinion” and “biased” and “very inaccurate.”

“That letter from EPA, from (EPA Water Enforcement manager Ken) Mr. Greenberg almost paints a picture that we are uncooperative,” he said.

He alluded to a meeting with the Department of Justice and legal counsel where it was asked to clarify whether they had to “go beyond Region 9” or the local area in their hiring search and whether “the court order expounded” on this.

“We are not intentionally countering” orders “EPA has issued to us. We need to clarify that CUC is doing it’s doing its due diligence.”

According to a Senate report by a legislative fiscal analyst this week on CUC issues, CUC has responded to the earlier May 25 letter from EPA on vacant management positions.

The letter largely alleged that CUC systemically failed to address vacant stipulated court order positions.

“CUC responded to this letter and sent three candidates that were all rejected for the executive director position,” David Demapan, the fiscal analyst, disclosed.

“EPA was not happy as none of the candidates were even close to matching the requirements and one didn’t even have a degree,” Demapan added.

The May EPA letter highlights long-standing personnel vacancies that EPA says are “adversely impacting operations,” such as lengthy vacancies in three of eight senior management Stipulated Order 1, or SO1, positions, for an executive director, deputy executive director, and division manager for drinking water and wastewater.

“EPA and the United States Department of Justice have repeatedly expressed concerns regarding CUC’s inadequate hiring commitment,” said EPA Water Enforcement manager Ken Greenberg said, noting that as a courtesy earlier this year, the EPA and DOJ met in person with members of CUC.

As part of that discussion, Greenberg said, the CUC board members agreed to “widely re-advertise these key positions” to notify both qualified “local and off-island persons of the positions.”

“However, the CUC board soon breached this promise

and limited its advertising to CNMI outlets, including for

the executive director and deputy executive director po-

sitions,” Greenberg added.

In addition to causing further delays and failing to meet its promise to the United

States, Greenberg said, the CUC board’s action conflicts with the June 2 letter and the court-approved Second Joint

Stipulation.

“CUC’s limited search was also unsuccessful,” he added. (Dennis B. Chan)



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 Honda Pilot EX retail price \$38,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 72 monthly payments of \$531.86 or \$245.47 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment \$38,293.92.



More FEMA money approved for CNMI

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Federal Emergency Management Agency notified the Office of Management and Budget on Thursday of the approval of two more projects from the Hazard Mitigation 404 Program to retrofit two facilities with storm shutters amounting to \$328,982, said the Office of the Governor last week.

This brings it to over \$8 million in Hazard Mitigation funds to have been approved for the Commonwealth.

Seven projects were submitted for FEMA review and six projects have currently been approved.

Project No. 5 will be used for the Kagman Community Center Storm Mitigation Project and Project No. 6 is for the Rota Mayor's Office Storm Readiness Project.

Last week, Office of Management and Budget's Virginia Villagomez says that one of the seven projects includes water system mitigation, emergency backup generators, concrete poles, and transformers.

» **\$300K brings total to \$8M**

She expressed that this funding is in alignment with the goals of the administration to improve resiliency and mitigation.

She says that these efforts to strengthen and improve typhoon readiness for the Commonwealth are expected to increase upon the final determination of the total cost of Typhoon Soudelor's operations with the available funding requiring a non-federal cost share of 10 percent, of which FEMA will pay for 90 percent to the total cost.

Sub-granted to the Office of the Mayor for the Municipality of Rota, Project No. 1 will address Rota's Office on Aging's storm shutters, Project No. 2 will be for Rota's Department of Public Safety's storm shutter project, Project No. 3 is for the Kannat Tabla Flood Control and Drainage for Phase 1, and the fourth project is for state management costs accrued during hazard mitigation for the Office of the Governor.

The CNMI should expect a total of \$13 million in FEMA HMGP funding by the end of 2016.



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Room Attendant	50
Room Maintenance Handyman	5
Manager - Public Area	1
Public Area Attendant	60
Manager - Wardrobe	1
Wardrobe Attendant	20
Seamstress	5
Supervisor - Laundry	2
Coordinator - Laundry	1
Laundry Attendant	20
Laundry Runner	5

Players Club Services

Players Club Representative	10
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Purchasing

Manager - Purchasing	1
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Property Development

Project Engineer	1
Project Manager	1

Finance

Assistant Vice President / Vice President - Group Taxation	1
Cage Cashier	8
Count Cashier	3

Food & Beverage

Hygiene Manager	1
Restaurant Manager - Employee Dining	1

Food & Beverage

Assistant Restaurant Manager - Employee Dining	1
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Restaurant Manager - Buffet & All Day Dining	1
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Assistant Restaurant Manager - Chinese Restaurant	4
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Assistant Restaurant Manager - Buffet & All Day Dining	3
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Restaurant Supervisor - Chinese Restaurant	11
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Supervisor - Employee Dining	5
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Server I	10
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Server II	10
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Runner	10
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Chef de Cuisine - Buffet & All Day Dining	1
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Chef de Cuisine - Cantonese Restaurant	1
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Food & Beverage

Sous Chef - Buffet & All Day Dining	3
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Sous Chef - Cantonese Restaurant	2
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Junior Sous Chef - Buffet & All Day Dining	2
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Junior Sous Chef - Cantonese Restaurant	1
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Chef de Partie - Buffet & All Day Dining	4
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Chef de Partie - Northern Chinese Restaurant	3
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Chef de Partie - Cantonese Restaurant	3
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Demi Chef - Chinese Cuisines	11
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Commis I - Chinese Cuisines	14
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Steward Manager	1
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Stewards	30
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Pageant candidates enjoy journey, experience



By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Three of the four Miss Teen Marianas candidates and six of their counterparts in the Miss Marianas competition said they all enjoyed the journey and experience they had by just being part of the annual beauty pageant organized by Stellar Marianas.

Jyawanna Joyner, Nicole Myers, Palanga Taimanao, and Lexee Leesang will be vying for the Miss Teen Marianas crown, while Marie Aldan, Angelyn Labadan, Joanna Navarro, Peachy Quitugua, Francine Sablan, and Maricris Zapanta are the six Miss Marianas candidates.

Nine candidates were present in Thursday's press conference held at the Marianas Visitors Authority office as Leesang was off-island. Stellar Marianas president Laila Y. Boyer and some of the sponsors were also present.

Joyner said although she was a shy girl joining the Miss Teen Marianas was her dream. "I'm normally a shy girl but I just want to give it a try. Joining was a fun experience. It helped me come out of my shell and become more confident."

She said that, if ever she's crowned Miss Teen Marianas, she wants to focus helping kids who come from broken families and victims of abuse. "I want to say to them that they

are not alone and I'm one of the persons they can talk to."

Myers said that she was glad to be part of an excellent group of lovely ladies who are passionate in helping the community in every way they can. "We all want to help the community in anyway that we can. We put out ourselves so we could reach our full potential."

"I would love to show to the rest of the world that Saipan is more than just a tiny island and the entire CNMI has a lot more things to offer," added Myers if ever she wins the crown.

Taimanao, who comes from Rota, said that there were not really a lot of opportunities in the CNMI's southernmost island. "I don't usually do pag-

JON PEREZ
Reigning Miss Marianas Jian Joyner, right, poses with the candidates of the Miss Marianas and Miss Teen Marianas in front of the pageant's official car from Triple J Motors. The new queen will be using the car for one year.

eants and I'm not into make up but this is something new so why not try it out."

She said that at first she thought that you need to tryout and undergo a rigid screening process. "I was surprised

when they told me that I'm in. So, I grabbed the opportunity."

She wants to campaign in breaking down divisions in school. "Teenagers at my age, we have our own group of friends at school, our own cliques, while some are left alone. I want to end that since we're in one school and it's better to have lots of friends."

Navarro, a repeat candidate in the Miss Marianas, said she loves joining events like this and that's what she does when she's in the Philippines. "I'm happy joining pageants. It has been my passion."

"Though, I have joined pag-

eants before, I still have nervous feelings but it's less than the first time I competed," added Navarro, who graduated magna cum laude with a degree in hospitality management at the Northern Marianas College.

Boyer said this year's pageant theme is "Nautical Chic" as the candidates promote protecting natural resources and taking care of the environment.

The winning candidate, both in the Miss Teen Marianas and Miss Marianas, will be using a brand new car from Triple J Motors for the whole year of their respective reigns.

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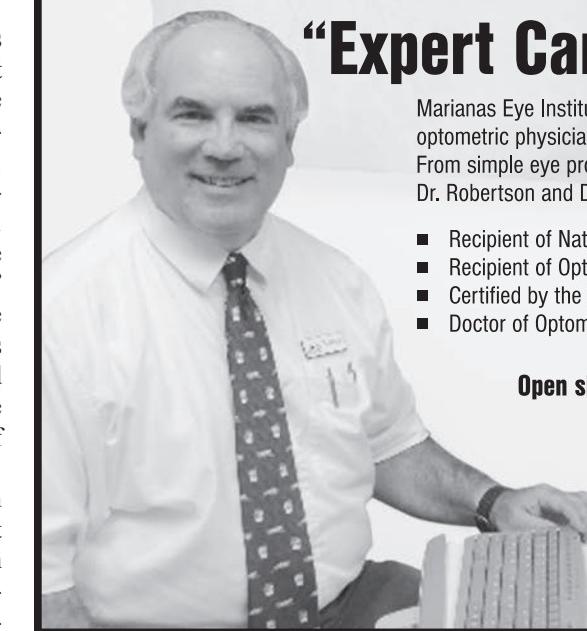
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Intoxicated man allegedly beats up wife, hits her with 3 stools

An intoxicated man allegedly chased his common-law wife on the street, beat her, and struck her with three stools at a bar in Garapan, where she sought refuge last June 22.

Herbert Osupang Bel, 38, was arrested that same night. He was subsequently released as police conducted further investigation.

Bel was served with an arrest warrant on Thursday on charges of assault with a dangerous weapon, assault and battery, disturbing the peace, and criminal mischief.

The victim suffered an inch-long laceration above the right eye, swollen lump on the back of head, and bruised left forearm, police said.

At a hearing on Friday, Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio imposed an \$8,000 cash bail on Bel and set the preliminary hearing for July 8 at 9am.

Assistant public defender Tillman Clark was appointed as counsel for Bel. Assistant attorney general Chester Hinds appeared for the government.

Police Detective Peter Alldan stated in his report that last June 22, Bel and his common-law wife went to the house of her uncle for a family gathering.

ing near Admiral Restaurant and Bar in Garapan.

After the party, as they were walking on their way home, the common-law wife held on to the arm of her male relative because she felt that Bel got mad and would beat her up.

Bel and the victim's relative eventually got into an argument. Bel then chased the victim from Taibwo Street until they reached Admiral Bar and Restaurant.

The male manager of the establishment opened the front door to check the shouting and commotion outside. The victim, however, ran inside the bar and stood behind the manager, begging to call the police.

Bel barged in and started

Water service interruption in Dandan Homestead and southern San Vicente

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. customers along Dandan Road from Isa Drive to Sailing Drive are currently experiencing an emergency water service interruption due to three down wells that were identified yesterday by CUC operators.

The 12-inch mainline leak repair on Dandan Road is anticipated to be completed by this evening and customers in the affected areas should expect restoration of services soon thereafter. (PR)

As we celebrate our nation's freedom, we honor the courageous men and women dedicated to preserving it.

Happy Liberation Day to all!

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Opinion

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Pacific Islands News Association

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



On this Independence Day

Today is Independence Day throughout the country. I read extensively of its founding as a nation in 1787 under a constitution premised on Judeo-Christian principles. The vision of the founding fathers guided its growth for over 200 years until our country became the most powerful and prosperous in the global community of nations.

As we ponder the success of our country, there's on the flip side the work of liberal progressives the likes of Obama and cronies who quietly work their agenda to turn the country into a socialist or nanny government where everybody lives off the national treasury. But wasn't the success of our country founded on "rugged individualism?"

This was the conviction of newcomers to the "land of the free" beginning on the first day passing by the Statue of Liberty. Difficult the initial history may be it ended with Pilgrims sitting down on the same dinner table with Native Americans at Thanksgiving for a hearty meal. It was a celebration of an abundant harvest season going into the winter months.

Our ancestors had pioneering qualities in rugged individualism working the farm from pre-dawn past sunset. This quality has since faded into history.

Since the '50s our elderly wanted something better than the retardant disposition of the old TTG. We finally broke off and established a permanent relationship with what's now our national government. While mulling the benefits and success of "rugged individualism" there's also the factual generosity of our national government, e.g., helping the NMI recover after superstorm Soudelor and other federal assistance including Medicaid, food stamps and housing.

On our own, we're as good as sunken WWII tanks sticking out of the water in the lagoon. Difficult the challenges of instituting strong governance at least we've taken steps in recent past to oust corrupt officials. The task is far from over. And it takes our direct participation to free ourselves from ourselves. It simply means ousting the corrupt bunch from public office. It includes holding them accountable for their actions to the hilt!

I've started out this path already. Eradicating corruption is difficult but at least we've taken the first step to remind public officials that public funds in the local treasury is disposed by a set of laws not jungle rules. Discouraging though the lack of perception on "Issues That Matter" so prevalent among the elected elite here. Imagine our future placed at their feet!

See INDEPENDENCE on Next Page



The Fourth

There is nothing more sacred in the minds of Americans than the Fourth of July, being one of the intentionally political decisions the Union undertook in its history.

The Marianas has one American Memorial Park to showcase the design of a military occupation largely at the command of the Pentagon. We are told that Tinian and Saipan were 70 and 25 percent leased respectively for 99 years, and now in "Covenant" with the Union, understood in its legal definition in the West, but taken as a stance to relate and converse by the Chamorro and Carolinian.

Either way, the fluttering of the red, white, and blue is resplendent in homes, lagoon-side barbecues, and on sidewalk bamboo sticks along the parade route. For some, it is an affirmation of the sovereign position of White Amerika to the rest of the world, and there is brouhaha of the fluid whitener marketed in China with dark skinned African model turning white.

I was reminded of a PCV from the Carolinas bewailing the fact that she was not going to get too many dates while in service in Mindanao at a training in Bicol, and I pointed to a handsome Boston dude of African-American descent. With hands on her waist, she exclaimed: "He ain't no nigger!"

Marketers of Obama were careful to point out that his father was a visiting student from Kenya, and his mother, a Kansas lass of British descent; born in Hawaii of indeterminate racial purity, he is not an African-American from the U.S. Deep South.

The United States is a work in progress. It is heavily laden with the ethos of new England but the citizens of the West Coast from Seattle to San Diego are hardly lily white, and the culture its people brought to its shores are hardly of the European variety. The corporate and office culture is still heavily Boston-NYC-DC but something about the casual and easy ways of the Orient permeates the Oahu-Alaska-San Diego triangle that has defined the west side of the Rockies save the Mormons of Utah and the ruggedly individualistic mountaineers of Montana.

But clearly, the Fourth of July is no longer confined to the Boston Tea Party, or the Minutemen of Concord. It is the dream of possibility by almost everyone around the world and the nation's changing demographic will see an expansion to Canada and Mexico southward across the Pecos, the vaunted Wall notwithstanding.

There will be speeches today as the presidential campaign zeroes into the choice between Hillary and The Donald. Americans of the lily white persuasion are predominantly on the Trump side of the equation. But morality and ethics is not the issue (I chose Hillary on this one); reality is. The human biodiversity of the land is both its reality and promise. It is already biodiverse; it just needs to align its time management, space organization, role definition, and story narrative to conform to what is real.

Having recently taught Grade 1 in a public school, I was as-

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinopanda2031@aol.com. All views expressed by the author are his/her own and do not necessarily reflect the opinion and stance of the Saipan Tribune.



tounded at the defining quality of selfhood; the darker the skin, the heavier the obligation to conform to the ways of the fairer skin. Status and position was on skin color, and the common putdown is to tell someone that they are dark. This at the front of a potential 16-year journey of formal education.

Most of these are in the mind, which we can manage and control. Folks do operate on images and the same determine behavior. When images change, behavior changes. That we need a broad spectrum to contain various behavior patterns challenge educators to be more intentional with the images they project, the pedagogical call of the hour.

We have other perfunctory holidays, Christmas being the apex of the Chamber of Commerce promo for shopping, from Thanksgiving to Three Kings, but with the increasing non-Christian or former Christian members of the populace, the bright Noel had lost part of its luster.

Thanksgiving Day reminds us of how we treated the Native Americans. Upward mobility through higher education or the armed services is the Marianas limited option. Education graduates often go off island and do not return home, finding significant engagement elsewhere, unless one is stuck with a perfunctory role in a highly stratified structure like PSS.

Veteran's Services are existential to the Marianas as the percentage of soldiers and veterans per capita is high from those of Micronesia. Flag day is usually mirrored on the Fourth. MLK Day is a nod to our AA citizens, and parents/Mama/Papa/Grannies days are contrived to keep us buying goods we do not need. Keeps the banks happy as credit lines are increased when one misses a minimum payment.

Acknowledgement of minorities extends to the raucous Italians of NYC on Columbus Day, and labor gets its cognition in September.

A country's legal holidays is a telling mirror of the state of the nation, and right now, the US of A is into protecting its minorities and remembering its veterans; the minutemen with his right to bear arms quietly lurks in the shadows, TY but keep the guns holstered. Happy Fourth.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Open letter to people of the CNMI

The following is my personal views and concerns that I feel should be brought to the attention of the business community and to our elected leaders. I sincerely hope that there will be collaborated effort between leaders of the business community and our elected leaders. I am concerned about what will happen to our economy if we do not act forthwith and solve this difficult labor issues facing us today.

For years we have been aware of the eventual phase out of the CW-1 program, but we probably did not consider the serious consequences facing our economy. There have been several extensions granted to the CNMI on the CW phase out. The federal government was hoping that local residents would take on the needed manpower to boost the economic development. The influx of investors especially in the area of the tourism industry is flourishing and will continue to flourish to a point where available local workers are unable to meet the demand. The growth of our economy indispensably requires the importation of non-resident workers. I find the need for more workers still exists today. The only solution is to restrict further growth of our economy. Obviously, that is unrealistic. I have therefore prepared the following points in hopes to truly assess where the deficiency lies, find acceptable balance to continue economic growth, and its need for more workers.

Can we operate within our means?

Over the past decade or so, the CNMI has suffered financially to a point where it is unable to meet its obligations. The financial deficiencies still exist today. This problem needs to be dealt with by:

- The Legislative Branch
- The Executive Branch
- The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, and
- Other organizations in the CNMI

We are all aware of the serious financial liability that the CNMI government is presently facing. It is inevitable that such liability must be shouldered by all of us living in the CNMI. I have not been able to pinpoint the exact amount such liability but I am sure it is somewhere in high million of dollars. I suggest the appropriate agency of this government prepare a financial statement. We must all work together and find the least painful way to resolve the serious financial crisis of this government. Lest we forget, the financial obligations of the government is "in fact" the obligation of taxpayers in the CNMI. One solution that would ease the financial tension is to reduce the cost of operating the branches of the government down to the departmental and divisional levels. Reduce the number of employees of the government to a bearable level, and arrange with businesses to absorb them. Provide for a program where business firms train new locally hired employees in their respective professions. This procedure would solve the needed reduction of operating costs to the government while the private sector would gain someone who may be permanently employed.

INDEPENDENCE

From Page 10

Special tribute: As I ponder the essence of this day, I wish to offer a special tribute to my late grandfather Elias P. Sablan for enduring what could have been a fatal imprisonment before the war. The Japanese jailed him because he knew English he learned from books his uncle brought from the East Coast as a sailor on a whaling ship. Tata was a natural linguist.

I couldn't imagine the heightened fear of his fate where the Japanese could have easily beheaded him. I'd say he paid for my freedom long before I was born! With a sense of humility I hum a patriotic tune for grandpa, "America The Beautiful" which says in part, "O' beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years, thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears, America... God shed his grace on thee, till nobler men keep once again, thy whiter jubilee." Let the bells of freedom ring "from sea to shining seal!" *Si Yuus Maase` Tata!*

Covenant: The reunification issue has surfaced with the view to lumping Guam and the NMI under a single entity conjured on alleged "cultural" similarities. Culture?

Some have claimed the Covenant Agreement is shortsighted but then do we accept your adolescent view as visionary not? Take a look at the basis of its overwhelming approval in the seventies. It didn't spin out of thin air. It has its own legitimate history. Please revisit USPL 94-241 for guidance that includes mutual consent.

Indeed, there are issues that seem missing. But the greater question is why? Isn't it true that the NMI was under colonial

In Guam, for instance, the legislature is unicameral with 15 senators. Guam's population is somewhere in the area of 190,000. Here in the CNMI the estimated population is about 55,000, including nonresidents. We should seriously consider reducing the size of our Senate and House members to say, six and 10 members, respectively. The Legislature could meet 10 working days per quarter and be paid \$100 per diem. Reduce the number of the Legislative Bureau staff to four attorneys and eight to 10 supporting staff and have them work permanently. The Legislative Branch might be able to operate at a budget of say, \$1.5 million per annum. The excess number of employees can be absorbed by the private sector, thus complement the number of workers.

I fully recognize that the above scenario might be construed "ridiculous" by some. However, as a taxpayer, it is critically important that we have to find a way to reduce the expenses of operating our government efficiently. What I am suggesting is probably next to impossible but how else are we going to cope with the needed manpower in the private sector?

We need to know the answers to the following questions. We will then be in a much better position to "fine-tune" the overall manpower needs of the CNMI.

- What is the total number of workers in the CNMI government?
- What is the total number of resident workers presently employed in the private sector?
- What is the total number of CNMI residents who are unemployed?
- How many CW-1 workers are in the CNMI at the present time?
- What is the estimated number of additional workers needed now?
- What is the estimated number of additional workers needed annually as of 2017?

According to U.S. Homeland Security/Immigration, CW program will be phased out by 2019. Perhaps the business community should consider converting some if not all to "H-1" and "H-2" categories.

Development of our economy

1. Promotion of tourism destination:

Marianas Visitors Authority is doing an effective job in promoting the CNMI as "a premier tourist destination." On average, it is anticipated that arrivals will definitely increase over the next several years. Based on available information and based on projection there will be need of rooms to accommodate visitors of 946,500 room nights; and at an average three nights occupancy per room, we are looking at 7,780 hotel rooms will be available by year 2021. The result of the projected influx of tourists/visitors to the CNMI looks very promising. We must therefore be prepared to cope with the anticipated increase in arrivals. We must collaborate with our government as well as the pertinent agencies of the U.S. government to complement our needs for a successful economic development.

2. Identify needs of the industry and bring them to fruition:

a) The business community and the CNMI government must work closely together to solve the most critical issue facing us today—nonresident workers. Even if we reduce the size of the government and train local residents (U.S. citizens) to take on jobs presently held by non-resident workers, there is not enough local manpower to satisfy the needed numbers. Subject to verification, the estimated number of government workers is approximately 4,000. Several months ago, the CNMI Department

rule for over 400 years? So where in the span of command and control by foreign powers did the indigenous people had the opportunity for self-rule?

If we've had a history of self-rule, it stands to reason that we would have dealt with such matters as territorial sea, disposition of 200-mile EEZ, including reaping the benefits of sea and seabed resources and trade. We never did other than to follow orders from colonial rulers!

The issue of decolonization is one humongous undertaking that begins with the complete use of the indigenous language from daily conversations to books in math and other instructional materials. Ready for the task at hand?

Militarization: Having seen the human devastation of the atomic bomb in Bikini, Rongelap, and Utirik in the Marshalls in 1974 hardened my resolve against the use of huge detonations anywhere nearby. It was an experiment placing might over rights.

I saw what the people had to endure including the annual check-up of their health by a team from the Atomic Energy Commission. Imagine the ruination of their health for life!

Returning to Kwajalein, I sat on the beach talking to members of the team into the wee hours of the morning. I had to rely on divine providence for spiritual guidance helpless in my struggle to understand the wrong I've just seen in the outlying islands.

It brought me home to military plans on Tinian and the residual rights of the people to be heard on the use of their island and Pagan against bombing practices. Enough with Farallon De Mendenilla! Negotiations would have to focus on thoughtful and mutually beneficial partnership.

of Labor estimated the number of unemployed is 10,000. This number should be segregated by age and job classification or proficiency. We will then be able to identify what jobs might be available to accommodate the 10,000 or so unemployed.

b) We in the CNMI can no longer handle the growth of our economy without external element. Over the years we have witness the growth of our economy. Such growth demands for skilled and unskilled workers. The local residents who are willing and able to work will no doubt find a job. But the local source will never be able to fully accommodate the total need of our economy. The answer therefore is quite obvious—nonresident workers.

3. Seek the understanding and support of the US government:

a) Those of us in the business community are painfully aware of the critical need for imported workers. Over the years we have learned to rely on these workers to enhance the needed manpower. Many of these workers, (majority of whom are from the Republic of the Philippines), have been in the CNMI for over 20 years or more. The CNMI have become their home. They have children born in the CNMI and are U.S. citizens.

b) We should ask our leaders in the CNMI government and Delegate Gregorio "Kilili" C. Sablan to provide for these Filipinos and their family members to be extended amnesty by granting them U.S. permanent resident status. I strongly believe that they truly deserve favorable consideration from the United States and grant them U.S. permanent residency to allow them to remain the CNMI. I suggest that Filipinos who have been in the CNMI, "legally and continuously for a period of 10 years" be extended a U.S. permanent resident status. I heard from reliable source that in the last U.S. Congress, the Senate passed legislation to grant permanent status to most of the CW workers (S. 744, Immigration Bill, 113th Congress). But the provision died along with the entire immigration bill at the hands of Republicans who were opposed to "amnesty" for illegals. Of course CW workers were granted legal CW status thus they are legally in the CNMI.

c) The above suggestion will reduce the need for "CW-1" requirement. Anyone eligible for U.S. permanent resident status as stated herein above must apply to ensure they qualify under the established regulation.

d) I for one feel that there are many deserving Filipinos who deserve our consideration and sincerely hope that our political leaders, especially Congressman Kilili Sablan should be given full support as he deals with his colleagues in Congress and hopefully with the Obama administration.

e) I learned that during WWII, Filipinos were actively engaged in fighting during the battle of the Philippines. They were and still are the staunchest allies of the United States of America today. The ethnic compatibility between Filipinos and the people of the Northern Mariana Islands are quite evidently favorable.

David M. Sablan Sr.

Chalan Pago

Not beasts of burden

I heard and read a few stories about the CWs in town lately. Many of the CWs whose permits and/or extensions were denied have gone back are preparing to go back to the Philippines.

The heartbreaking story I heard was about the separation of a family—the mother is detained in the immigration detention center, the two U.S. citizen children were left with the father in their home. I understand the mother is going to be deported back to the Philippines. But why separate them while on Saipan, where will the mother go while here.

Laws are made to maintain social discipline; laws should be enforced by people who have a mind and a heart.

It seems that USCIS is filled with people who have forgotten their past. I am sure that each one of them has kin who came to the U.S. to find a better life. That is the same story then and now—in search for a better life. Maybe some are immigrants themselves.

I have been consciously aware of two situations when "aliens" in the U.S. including illegal aliens were pardoned if they come forward thus get their proper documentations for immigration. I wonder why the CNMI was not included in the last amnesty? A strong lobby against the CWs in the CNMI? USCIS plays around with CWs, who in their desire to earn a good living, they are willing to sacrifice themselves including the money that they earned. The fees are so expensive and the paperwork are so much. I say it is a very oppressive system.

The U.S. and the local government better agree on a more human way of treating foreign workers because they are humans not beasts of burden.

First, permission for the foreign workers is until 2019; it is not even halfway. Now it is denial here and denial there. What is really happening?

Is there someone who is clearly thinking about this CW issue who can share the real problem here? To think about it is tiresome. Thank you.

Fe Calixterio

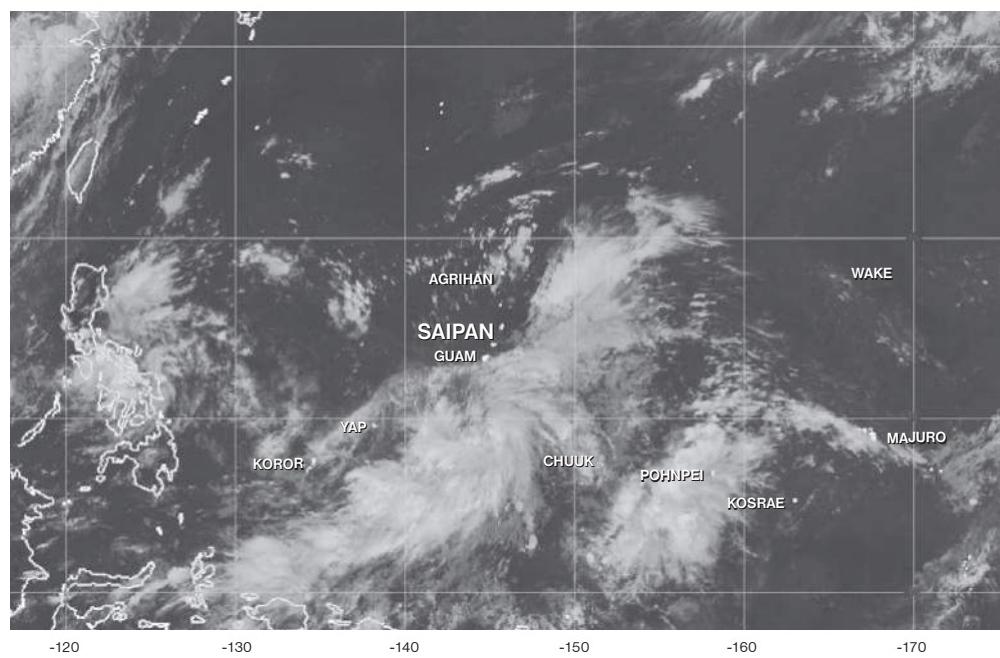
As Perdido

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy and breezy with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms. East winds 20 to 25 mph with gust to 30 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Southeast winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly sunny. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly cloudy. Isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 80°	▲ 89° ▼ 80°	▲ 89° ▼ 80°	▲ 89° ▼ 80°	▲ 89° ▼ 80°

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00 PM, SUNDAY, JULY 3, 2016

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical depression O2W (Nepartak) is centered 310 miles south of Guam near 9N145E moving northeast at 5 mph with maximum sustained winds of 35 mph. Numerous showers and isolated thunderstorms are near and south of the center of circulation between 5N and 11N from 140E to 149E. For more information on TD 02W, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and bulletins by the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. Converging monsoonal winds southwest and south of TD 02W are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Koror between the equator and 5N from 130E to 149E. A weak circulation is centered south of Pohnpei near 5N157E. A surface trough extends northeast from the circulation to 9N166E. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are found over Chuuk and Pohnpei between the equator and 10N from 151E to 162E, and within 75 miles of a line from 11N161E to 9N169E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers near and east of a Majuro east of a line from 10N170E to 3N172E. An upper-level low is centered northeast of Saipan at 18N149E.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Rain	▲ 86	▼ 81
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 81
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲ 88	▼ 79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 77
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲ 87	▼ 79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲ 86	▼ 82
Majuro	Rain	▲ 86	▼ 81

Around the Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲ 60	▼ 49
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 88	▼ 70
Hong Kong	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 87	▼ 83
Honolulu	Clear	▲ 83	▼ 74
London	Showers	▲ 67	▼ 54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 76	▼ 61
Manila	Partly Sunny	▲ 93	▼ 80
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 55	▼ 49
Miami	Thunderstorms	▲ 89	▼ 82
New York	Partly Sunny	▲ 82	▼ 67
Osaka	Showers	▲ 91	▼ 75
Paris	Showers	▲ 66	▼ 53
Pusan	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 78	▼ 72
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲ 91	▼ 65
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 77	▼ 57
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65	▼ 54
Seoul	Rain	▲ 74	▼ 67
Tokyo	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 90	▼ 77
Washington, DC	Rain	▲ 72	▼ 65

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
1:14 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.12 Feet
6:20 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.07 Feet
1:45 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.57 Feet
8:43 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.98 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:51 AM	6:51 PM
Tuesday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Wednesday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Thursday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM
Friday	5:52 AM	6:52 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Monday	5:23 AM	6:34 PM
Tuesday	6:22 AM	7:29 PM
Wednesday	7:19 AM	8:21 PM
Thursday	8:15 AM	9:08 PM
Friday	9:08 AM	9:52 PM

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NMI CRIME STOPPERS

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- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 15, 2016

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA2924	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA2923	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA2922	8:40am	9:30am	Daily	UA2925	7:15am	8:05am	Daily
UA2921	1:30pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota	UA2921	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA2920	2:20pm	3:10pm	2, 3, 6	UA2920	12:10pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6 via Rota
UA2928	6:05pm	6:55pm	Daily	UA2927	4:45pm	5:35pm	Daily
UA2926	9:50pm	10:40pm	Daily	UA2929	8:30pm	9:20pm	Daily
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA2921	1:30pm	2:05pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	12:10pm	12:45pm	2, 3, 6
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA2921	2:35pm	3:10pm	1, 4, 5, 7	UA2920	1:15pm	1:50pm	2, 3, 6
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL297	4:20pm	7:00pm	Daily	DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1	UJ651	7:30am	1:10pm	Daily
OZ626	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	7C3402	9:30am	3:00pm	Daily
7C3403	4:45am	8:30am	Daily	OZ625	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
UJ652	2:10pm	6:05pm	Daily	OZ625	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
7C3401	4:00pm	7:45pm	Daily	7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)				BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN			
OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7	OZ607	9:05pm	1:55am+1	3, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
<b							

Rota's 1st female firefighter among 11th Cycle graduates



THOMAS LEE A. MANGLONA II

Rota's first-ever female firefighter Bobbie Jean Taisacan, center, poses for a photo with fellow 11th Fire Cycle graduates from Rota after their ceremony last week at Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

By THOMAS LEE A. MANGLONA II
tamanglona@gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services graduated its newest batch of firefighters last Friday at Fiesta Resort & Spa's Hibiscus Hall. Among the 11th Cycle Academy graduates was Bobbie Jean Taisacan, 25, Rota's first-ever female firefighter.

"I pursued this because I wanted to give back to the community and make my family proud," she told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview. "...I have been inspired by so many people and I have tried different places, different jobs, and pursuits and I ended up where I wanted to be."

She added that working in the fire department is her true passion. She plans to hone her skills further when she begins work on her home island of Rota and eventually further her education as well.

She urges the islands' youth to never give up. "Anyone can do it. We can all do it. You have to find it in your heart and want it. That's how I prepared myself...that's what kept me going because I wanted it so bad," she said.

Taisacan was joined by fellow firefighters from around the CNMI. The graduating class was comprised of 26 new firefighters from Saipan, six from Tinian, and six from Rota.

The cadets received their certificates after four months of intensive studying at the Northern Marianas College and training on the field.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and Lt. Gov. Victor Hocog, members of the Legislature, and officials from the Western Pacific Association of Fire Chiefs were among the standing-room-only audience who congratulated the graduates.

Zackery S. Yamagishi and Nipighiyong T. Laniyo were this year's valedictorian and salutatorian, respectively. Christopher F. Hocog received the Governor's Leadership

Award, while Jamaal L. Mresbang was recognized as the "most physically fit" graduate.

Northern Marianas College interim president David Attao lauded the graduates for their success in completing their classes. He told the group, "You educated yourself through an accredited in-

stitution. Your certificate and degrees as you move forward will carry on throughout your life. At NMC we strive to make partnerships and dreams a reality. These students, our dreams, are now our reality."

Torres echoed Attao's remarks, "Take the badge that you have with pride. Your

family is proud of you."

He added that the administration pledges to support DFEMS. "We've seen them go through the training and they are always coming as a group, never alone. We are stronger as a group. It's everyone's obligation to protect

each other in the same way you protect those who need protection," he added.

For his part, DFEMS Commissioner Claudio K. Norita urged the new firefighters to discuss any issues they see in the system. He reminded them to avail

of the opportunities that the department provides.

"There's a lot of opportunities to develop yourself..." he said. "You know what you are doing. You are being trained to do what you do. Do your job now and provide the critical service."

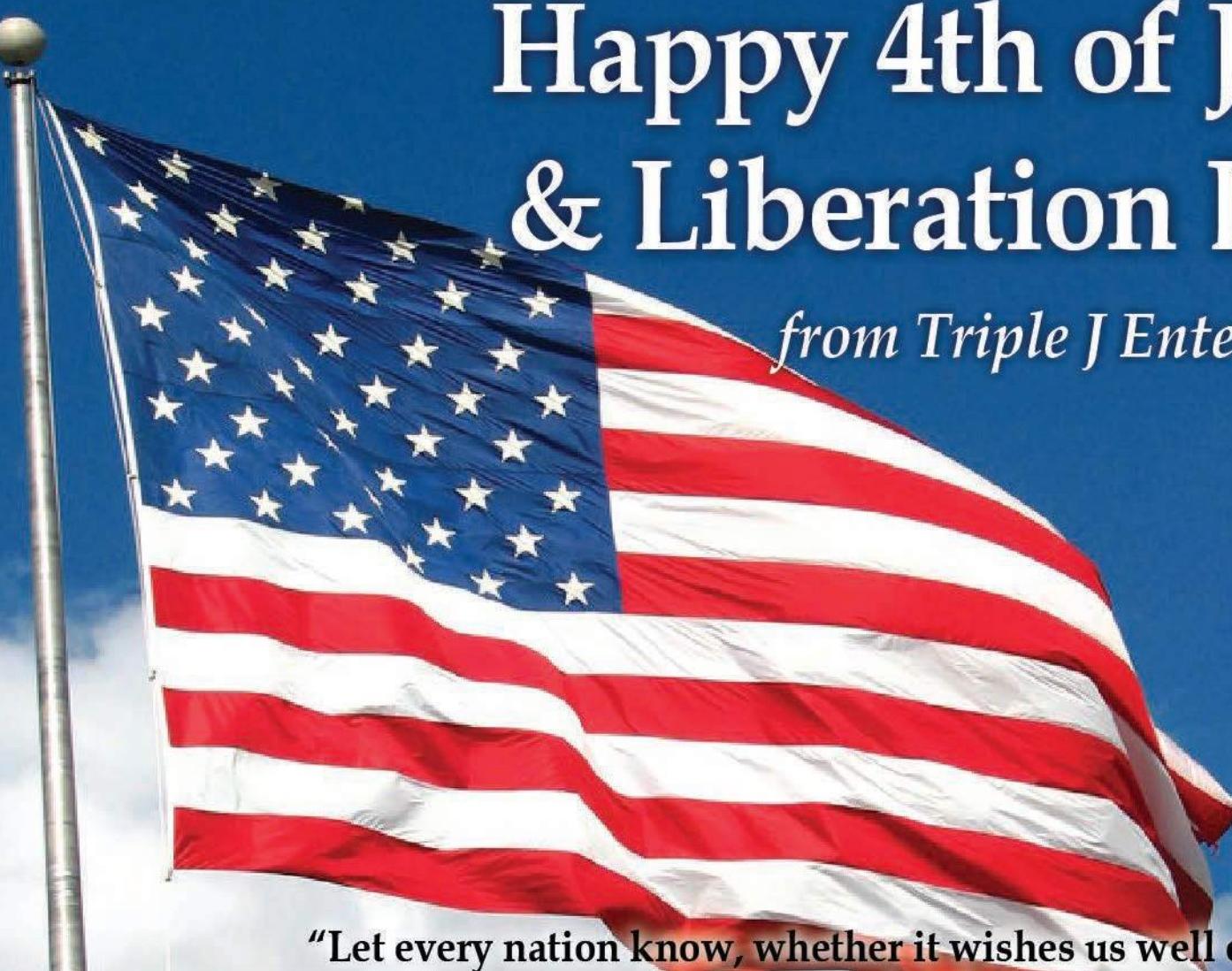
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PACIFIC CIRCLE CONSORTIUM 40TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

IT&E provides confab participants free Internet access



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E donated MiFi devices and calling cards for all the participants of the 40th Annual Conference of the Pacific Circle Consortium, which is happening this week. The conference is hosted by PSS, NMC, and RTI International. IT&E also donated \$1,000 that will be used for conference expenses. From left, Jackie Che, NMC; Amy Quito-Weiss, IT&E; Frankie Eliptico, NMC; Rex Moses, IT&E; and Charlotte Cepeda, IT&E.



Delegations from different countries who are on island for this week's Pacific Circle Consortium 40th Annual Conference will be receiving MiFi devices from IT&E that will allow them to access the internet throughout their stay. IT&E will also be providing high speed DSL service at the conference site, as well as long-distance calling cards that will be handed off to all off-island participants.

"We are extremely grateful for IT&E and other companies' support and generosity as the CNMI hosts participants of the Pacific Circle Consortium," said Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan.

The CNMI Public School System and Northern Marianas College, together with RTI International, will be welcoming educational leaders from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and other Pacific nations and territories as they arrive for the conference, which will be held at Saipan Southern High School from July 5 through 7.

This will be the first time that the Pacific Circle Consortium conference will be held in Micronesia.

"Since this will also be the 40th anniversary of PCC, the gathering is even more momentous," said Sablan.

The total value of IT&E's donation is \$5,000, which includes a cash contribution of \$1,000 that will be used to help pay for conference expenses.

"We are proud to be supporting this historic gathering of educational leaders and scholars," said Rose Soledad, IT&E general manager. "We look forward to hearing about the great discussions and collaborations that will result from this regional conference."

NMC interim president David Attao said that hosting the conference is not only

a great honor for PSS and NMC, but it is also a great opportunity for the CNMI to connect with its regional partners in education."

The Pacific Circle Consortium (PCC) was established in 1977 as an initiative in international cooperation between educational research and development institutions in the Pacific Region initially drawn from Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries. The Consortium is now independent from the OECD.

The conference will feature plenary sessions and breakout sessions covering different topics. Additionally, the Peter Brice Award, which recognizes an individual who best exemplifies the aims of the PCC, will be handed out during the event. Peter Brice represented New Zealand in the early days of the PCC when it was under the auspices of the OECD; he is best remembered for his wisdom, his humanity and his lifelong commitment to educational ideals.

Sablan and Attao also thanked the business sponsors who have donated their resources to help make the conference possible. (PR)



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Interested candidates are requested to submit their resumes or pick up an employment application at Champion Finance, 3rd floor, Marianas Business Plaza, Suite 316-B or email championfinancecnmi@gmail.com

PSS, NMC to host international educational conference next week

The CNMI Public School System and Northern Marianas College are all set to welcome educational leaders from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and other Pacific nations and territories as they arrive for the 40th Annual Pacific Circle Consortium Conference.

"This will be the first time that the Pacific Circle Consortium Conference will be held in the northern Pacific," said Education Commissioner Dr. Rita Sablan. "And since this will be the 40th anniversary of PCC, the gathering is even more momentous."

The PSS and NMC are partnering with Research Triangle Institute International to host the conference, which will take place from July 5-7 at Saipan Southern High School.

NMC interim president David Attao said that hosting the conference is not only a great honor for PSS and NMC, but it is also a great opportunity for the CNMI to connect with its regional partners in education."

The Pacific Circle Consortium (PCC) was established in 1977 as an initiative in international cooperation between educational research

and development institutions in the Pacific Region initially drawn from Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) countries. The Consortium is now independent from the OECD.

The PCC now draws members from Australia, New Zealand, several Pacific Islands, China, Hong Kong SAR, Japan, South Korea, Malaysia, Taiwan, Thailand, Sri Lanka, several states of the United States, Vietnam, Canada, Latvia, and Mexico.

Conference attendees have also come from Europe, the United Kingdom, Russia, Nepal and Ecuador.

The theme for the 2016 conference is, "Navigating Global Trends of Education within the Pacific Region."

The conference will feature plenary sessions and breakout sessions covering different topics. Additionally, the Peter Brice Award, which recognizes an individual who best exemplifies the aims of the PCC, will be handed out during the event. Peter Brice represented New Zealand in the early days of

the PCC when it was under the auspices of the OECD; he is best remembered for his wisdom, his humanity and his lifelong commitment to educational ideals.

"Bringing the 40th Annual Pacific Circle Consortium Conference to the island of Saipan strengthens the regional connections that we have started and will give us the opportunity to expand our Pacific capacity with new professional relationships," Sablan stated.

Sablan and Attao also thanked the business sponsors who have donated their resources to help make the conference possible.

The Gold Sponsors are TSL Foundation, Bank of Guam, IT&E, Best Sunshine, and RTI International. KKMP is a Silver Sponsor, while Bronze Sponsors include Bridge Capital, LLC, First Hawaiian Bank, Education Northwest, and MITA Travel/Western Union. They also thanked the Office of the Governor and the Office of the Mayor of Saipan for their contributions. (PR)

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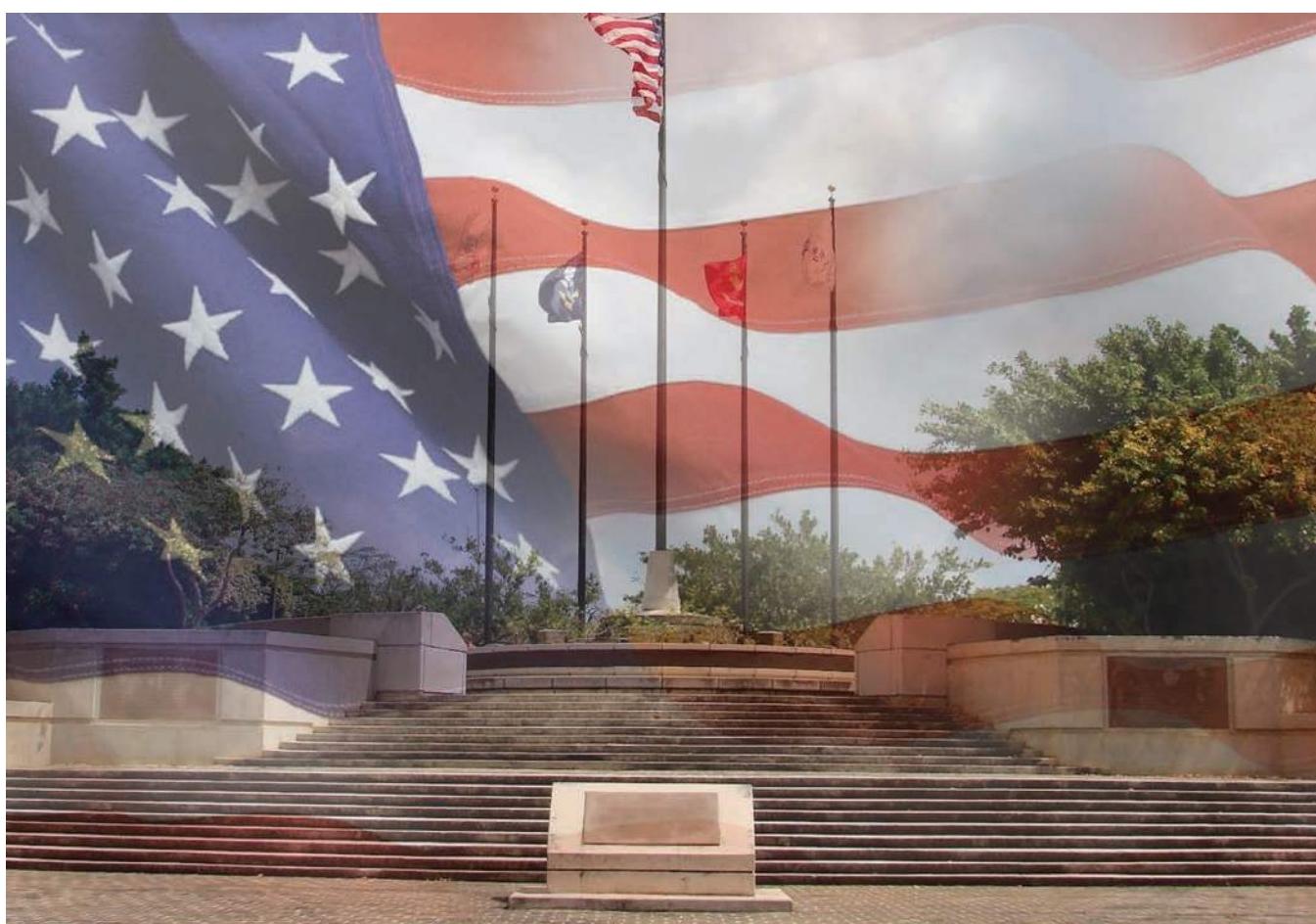
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from the management & staff of:

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

KHS is accepting ongoing registration for SY16-17

Kagman High School is reminding parents and guardians of students who plan to enroll at the school to please ensure your schedule is secure and to register no later than July 8, 2016.

Registered student schedules will be made available at the orientations:

- Freshman orientation on Aug. 11, 1pm at KHS café
- Sophomore orientation on Aug. 11, 2:30pm at KHS café
- Junior orientation on Aug. 12, 1pm at KHS café
- Senior orientation on Aug. 12, 2:30pm at KHS café

School opens on Aug. 15, 2016! Enjoy your summer!

KHS reminds parents and guardians of students that you won't get your schedule until you complete your registration.

So far, incoming 9th graders only 25 have registered, while out of 188 10th graders only 29 have registered. KHS also said that out of 165 11th graders only 30 have registered and out of 121 12th graders only 27 have registered. (PR)

Air Force to conduct training at FDM

ASAN, Guam—The Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla during the following dates and times:

- July 5 from noon to 6pm
- July 6-7 from 11am to 5pm

The general public, especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear of the areas during the dates and times indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. Farallon de Medinilla plays a special and unique role in national defense because its location provides frequent access that supports established training requirements. In addition, the air and sea space in the Farallon, located in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, provide sufficient room to conduct the many training profiles required to support aircrew combat readiness requirements.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)

Family Grief Support Group to meet on July 7

The Compassionate Friends of Saipan will be holding their monthly grief support meeting on Thursday, July 7, from 6am to 7:30am in the NMPASI conference room on Middle Road in Gualo Rai.

The group offers understanding and hope to parents, siblings, and grandparents who are grieving the loss of a child of any age, and from any cause. It provides a safe, confidential setting, in which to share experiences, while respecting and supporting each other, and listening. Members of the group have "been there." It does not espouse any specific religious or philosophical ideology. There is no "right way" to grieve, and family members are welcome to come to share or just to listen.

The mission of The Compassionate Friends is to assist families toward the positive resolution of grief following the death of a child of any age and to provide information to help others to be supportive. Today more than 600 chapters serving all 50 states plus Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, Guam, and Saipan offer friendship, understanding, and hope to bereaved parents, siblings and grandparents and other family members during the natural grieving process after a child has died.

For more information, e-mail tcfSaipan@gmail.com or call Jill Derickson (989-9821) or Donna Krum (783-1900). To learn more about The Compassionate Friends, visit their website at www.compassionatefriends.org. (PR)

Guam military bases raise force protection condition

ASAN, Guam—Joint Region Marianas and its installations in Guam elevated their force protection condition on Friday. This elevated condition puts Guam's bases in line with the force protection posture in the United States mainland. Although the increased posture adds a number of additional security measures, many random in nature, the intent is to raise awareness and vigilance during the holiday period and is not in response to a specific threat.

No scheduled base activities have been cancelled. The public is still invited to the MWR Guam Freedom Rocks Festival scheduled for 4-9pm, July 4 at Polaris Point. The band Hanson will perform at 7pm followed by a fireworks display.

Random force protection condition changes and exercises are necessary to ensure that the military effectively executes its force protection mission. Members of the military and their families are encouraged to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to local law enforcement authorities.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. (PR)

BSI-CSR launches job-shadowing program for middle school girls



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Some of the Girl Power-Big Sis Little Sis participants pose alongside BSI-CSR staff and Department of Corrections Commissioner Georgia Cabrera.

The first phase of the new Best Sunshine International, Ltd.'s Corporate Social Responsibility-initiated Project Girl Power, a job-shadowing program for middle school girls, was launched in collaboration with San Antonio Middle School last week.

The introductory event was held at the Kanoa Resort, with the BSI CSR girls as hosts. This was launched on June 30.

BSI-CSR executive director Rita Chong explains how the first phase of the Girl Power Project will work.

"Girl Power Big Sis Little Sis Program has been in the plan for several months. Through collaboration with San Antonio Middle School, this program was put in place to hook up our BSI CSR female staff with middle school girls," she said.

"The first phase of the Girl Power Project will basically be a job-shadowing exercise," states Chong. "We've developed a Big Sis Little Sis system where each of the participants will have the opportunity to see what it's like at the workplace of our very own staff. They will be guided throughout the day by an assigned mentor to see how our projects are organized, planned and brought to life. Phase 1 will start next week and will be an ongoing project."

One of the many participants, Jenisha Dubrall, shares her experience of Thursday's event and what she expects from the program.

"I like this Big Sis Little Sis Program because some of us don't have a big sister and if we need someone to talk to, we have them," said Dubrall. "They came to our school and we got to know about them and the program. I'm glad to be here today because we're playing games and having so much fun. I want to learn more about

what they do at their jobs."

Also present at the event was Department of Corrections Commissioner Georgia Cabrera to meet the girls and

talk about her experiences in her career as a Corrections officer. She also gave a brief presentation on safety and child laws. (PR)



DOC Commissioner Georgia Cabrera gives a brief description of her job and how things work at DOC.



Daisy Babauta, Camayah Sablan, Destiny Camacho, Dania Mettao, Jenisha Dubrall, and Rosebella Surla pose for a photo.



Jenisha Dubrall poses alongside her Big Sis Little Sis mentor C.J. Leon Guerrero.

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FAX: 670-532-9888
EMAIL: rota@pticom.com

Guam
Latitude 13° 30' N
Longitude 144° 40' E
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Nation

Clinton interviewed by FBI about private email server

WASHINGTON (AP)—The FBI interviewed Hillary Clinton on Saturday about her use of a private email server while she was secretary of state, her campaign announced after the meeting, as federal investigators neared the end of the probe that has hung over her White House bid.

Clinton, the Democratic presidential candidate, gave a voluntary interview for 3 1/2 hours at FBI headquarters in Washington, her campaign said.

"I've been eager to do it, and I was pleased to have the opportunity to assist the department in bringing its review to a conclusion," Clinton said in describing the FBI session to NBC's "Meet the Press" for an interview to air Sunday. She agreed that the tone of the session was civil

and business-like.

Clinton said she had no knowledge of any timeline for the review and would not comment on whether she was given an indication that charges would not be filed.

Spokespeople for the FBI and the Justice Department declined to comment Saturday.

For Clinton, the interview indicates that the Justice Department's yearlong probe is drawing to a close only four weeks before she is set to be formally nominated as the Democrats' choice to succeed President Barack Obama.

Clinton's FBI interview was expected, and it does not suggest that she or anyone else is likely to face prosecution. If Clinton and her aides are exonerated, it might help brush aside a major distraction

throughout her campaign that has made many voters question her trustworthiness.

But as the past week shows, the case is complicated. Clinton sat down with the FBI just days after her husband, former President Bill Clinton, walked across a hot airport tarmac in Phoenix for an impromptu meeting with Attorney General Loretta Lynch and Lynch's husband. The couple had just landed.

The nation's top law enforcement official later expressed regret that she had met with the former president, whose plane was about to depart Phoenix, even though she said it was social in nature and they did not discuss the email review. Bill Clinton nominated Lynch as U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of New York in 1999.

New cigarette taxes could be on ballot in hesitant states

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. (AP)—An entire generation has come of age since the last time Missouri raised its cigarette tax, from 13 cents a pack to 17 cents, in 1993.

Today, it's the lowest tax in the nation. And Missouri is one of just three states—along with North Dakota and California—that has held cigarette taxes flat since the turn of century. In that time, other states have increasingly tapped smokers to fill budget gaps and raise money for services such as health care and education.

That could soon change. Petitions are seeking to put higher cigarette taxes on the fall bal-

lot in all three of those holdout states, as well as Colorado.

Victories by anti-tobacco advocates would add to a surge that has already raised tens of billions of dollars for states while helping drive down the nation's smoking rate, from about a quarter of adults in 1990 to fewer than 17 percent in the most recent surveys.

From 2000 through 2014, states raised their cigarette taxes nearly 120 times, helping generate more than \$85 billion of additional revenue, according to an Associated Press analysis of state-by-state figures compiled by the economic consulting firm Orzechowski and Walker,

which is funded by the tobacco industry.

More than a dozen additional cigarette tax hikes have been enacted since then. They include July 1 increases that will raise West Virginia's tax to \$1.20 a pack and Connecticut's to \$3.90, the second highest nationally behind New York's \$4.35.

In June, California became only the second state behind Hawaii to raise the legal smoking age from 18 to 21 under a new law that also regulates electronic cigarettes.

Advocates believe the timing is right for people in even the most historically hesitant states to embrace higher tobacco taxes.

LGBT gun group membership spikes after Florida shooting

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Memberships have more than doubled in a national LGBT pro-gun rights organization since a gunman opened fire at a gay nightclub in Florida, killing 49 people.

Pink Pistols Utah chapter President Matt Schlentz said Pink Pistols membership has grown from 1,500 to 4,000 since Omar Mateen's June 12 rampage, the Salt Lake Tribune reported (<http://bit.ly/29p0eMI>).

"It's really sad that something on this scale had to happen for people to realize this is a need for our community," Schlentz said. "But the reality is we still get attacked for kissing our partners or holding hands in public. We get windows smashed for having an

equality sticker on them."

Schlentz owns semi-automatic rifles similar to the Sig Sauer MCX that Mateen used, and he said he gets mixed reactions from people who learn he's a gun rights advocate.

"Obviously, as a gay man, I have to have some liberal views socially. But on this one point, I have very conservative views. The reality is what it is—the world is a violent, terrible, scary place, and people do wish me harm based on who I love."

Pink Pistols organized in 2000 in response to a series of violent incidents like the murder in Wyoming of gay college student Matthew Shepard. Some early slogans were "Queers bash back" and "Pick on someone your own caliber." Stonewall Shooting Sports

of Utah is another pro-gun LGBT group.

"As awful as Orlando is, I feel like this is a huge eye-opener for a lot of people that the world is not a perfect place, especially for a group that's at risk for this kind of violence," said Scott Mogilefsky, the group's president and an Army veteran.

There was an increase in people inquiring with the group after Orlando, he said.

"Security should be armed at all gay nightclubs, and all employees should run through a defensive shooting course once a year," Mogilefsky said. "When you think about supremacist groups, a gay bar is an easy target. And the shooter knew that. It was like shooting fish in a barrel."

World

Hostage crisis leaves 28 dead in Bangladesh diplomatic



Ambulances carrying bodies head for hospitals after an operation against militants who took hostages at a restaurant popular with foreigners in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Saturday, July 2, 2016. AP

DHAKA, Bangladesh

(AP)—The hostages were given a test: recite verses from the Quran, or be punished, according to a witness. Those who passed were allowed to eat. Those who failed were tortured and slain.

The dramatic, 10-hour hostage crisis that gripped Bangladesh's diplomatic zone ended Saturday morning with at least 28 dead,

including six of the attackers, as commandos raided the popular restaurant where heavily armed attackers were holding dozens of foreigners and Bangladeshi prisoners while hurling bombs and engaging in a gunbattle with security forces. The victims included 20 hostages, mostly foreigners, and two Bangladeshi police officers.

The attack marks an escalation in militant violence that has hit the traditionally moderate Muslim-majority nation with increasing frequency in recent months, with the extremists demanding the secular government set up Islamic rule. Most previous attacks have involved machete-wielding men singling out individual activists, foreigners and religious minorities.

But Friday night's attack was different, more coordinated, with the attackers brandishing assault rifles as they shouted "Allahu Akbar" (God is Great) and stormed the Holey Artisan Bakery in Dhaka's Gulshan area while dozens of foreigners and Bangladeshis were dining out during the Ramadan holy month.

The Islamic State group claimed responsibility, saying it targeted the citizens

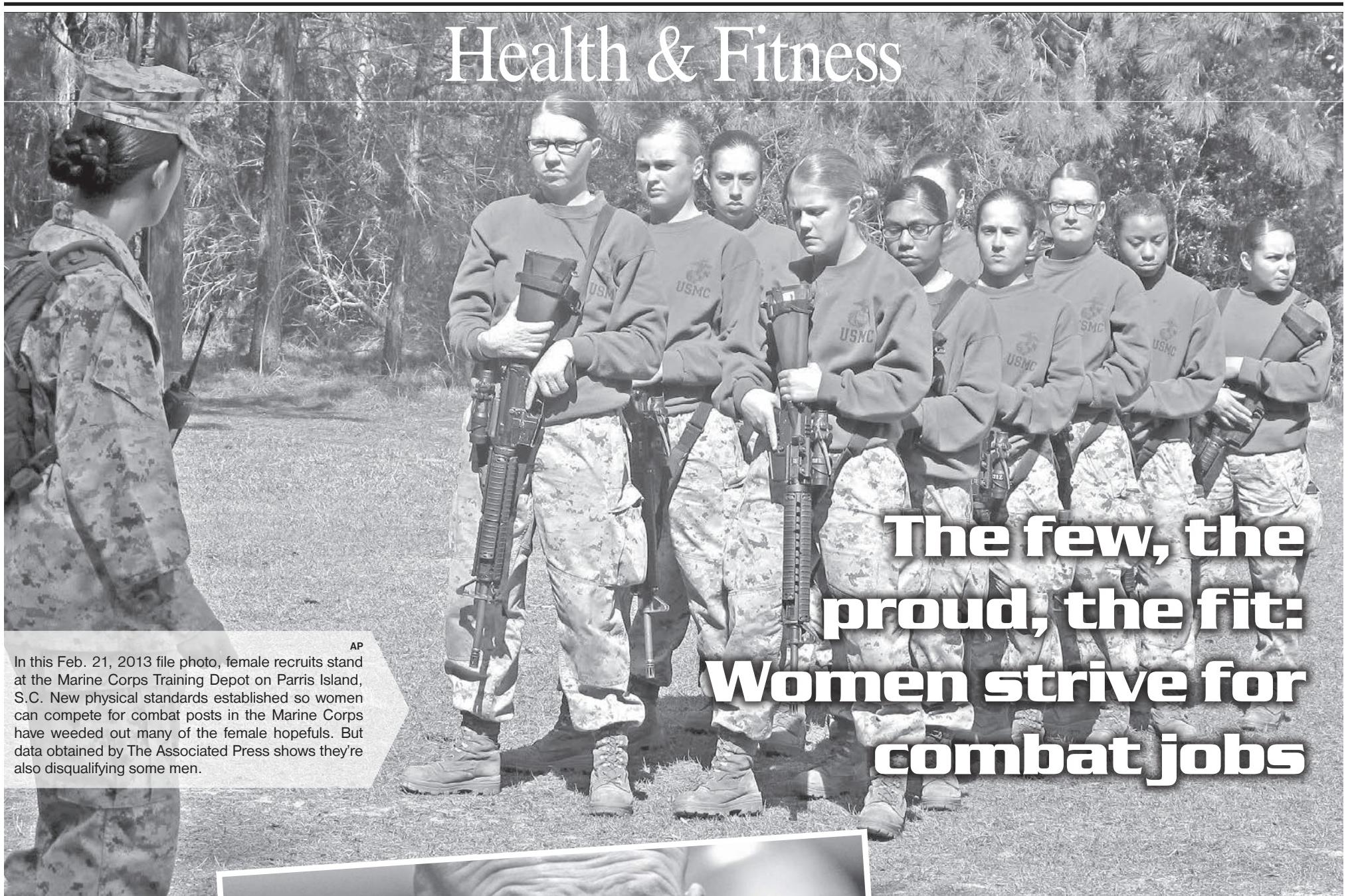
of "Crusader countries" in the attack, warning that citizens of such countries would not be safe "as long as their warplanes kill Muslims." The statement was circulated Friday by IS supporters on the Telegram messaging service and resembled previous statements by IS. It was not immediately clear if its leadership in Syria and Iraq was involved in planning the attack. The Amaq news agency, affiliated with IS, also posted photos purportedly showing hostages' bodies, though the authenticity of the images could not be confirmed.

The government did not directly comment on the IS claim but has denied in the past that the extremist group has a presence in Bangladesh. The government of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina instead has accused her political enemies of orchestrating the violence in order to destabilize the nation—which the opposition denies.

On Saturday, Amaq published photos of five smiling young men each holding what appear to be assault rifles and posing in front of a black IS flag whom the agency identified as the attackers, according to the SITE Intelligence Service, which monitors jihadi online activity. They were identified by noms de guerre indicating they were all Bangladeshis. Amaq said the fighters used "knives, cleavers, assault rifles and hand grenades."

Amaq said the attackers "verified" the identities of the hostages, sparing the Muslims and killing the foreigners.

Health & Fitness



In this Feb. 21, 2013 file photo, female recruits stand at the Marine Corps Training Depot on Parris Island, S.C. New physical standards established so women can compete for combat posts in the Marine Corps have weeded out many of the female hopefuls. But data obtained by The Associated Press shows they're also disqualifying some men.

The few, the proud, the fit: Women strive for combat jobs

WASHINGTON (AP)—Six months after the Pentagon ordered all combat jobs open to women, seven female Marines are either serving in those posts or waiting to serve, and 167 are performing noncombat duties in front-line units, according to new data obtained by The Associated Press.

The numbers underscore the difficulty of integrating women into the demanding jobs, and reflect the small number of women who want to be combat Marines and can pass the new tough physical standards required to qualify. So far this year those standards have weeded out most female hopefuls and have also disqualified some men.

Six out of seven female recruits—and 40 out of about 1,500 male recruits—failed to pass the new regimen of pull-ups, ammunition-can lifts, a 3-mile run and combat maneuvers required to move on in training for combat jobs, according to the data.

Failing the tests, taken about 45 days into basic training, forces recruits into less physically demanding Marine jobs.

The high failure rate for women recruits, however, raises questions about how well integration can work, including in Marine infantry units where troops routinely slog for miles carrying packs



In this Feb. 2, 2016, file photo, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Robert Neller testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, before the Senate Armed Services Committee. New physical standards established so women can compete for combat posts in the Marine Corps have weeded out many of the female hopefuls. But data obtained by The Associated Press shows they're also disqualifying some men.

reconnaissance and combat engineer jobs, pointing to studies that showed mixed gender units did not perform as well as male-only units. But Defense Secretary Ash Carter ordered all combat jobs open to women.

The Marines developed a detailed progression of physical standards that recruits must meet to get into the combat jobs. And officials insist that standards will not be lowered to allow more women to pass.

Neller said it will be an adjustment for Marines with women in previously male-only units, adding, “there are some things we’re going to have to work through.”

Would he want his daughter to serve in the infantry?

“No,” was his quick answer. But, he added, “She should be able to do whatever she wants to do, that she’s qualified to do. So if she wanted to do it, I’d tell her about the culture and the climate and if she wanted to do it, I’d say OK, here’s what we have to do to get ready. And then, if she met the standards, she should be given the opportunity to compete.”

at the end of the day we’re all going to be on the battlefield and we all have to be able to do our job.”

The seven women already serving in combat jobs or in the pipeline are almost all Marine officers who requested open combat posts.

The one recruit among the seven has enlisted for an infantry job, but hasn’t reported yet to boot camp. One of the officers was injured in the infantry officers’ course and is waiting to retake it. Two women graduated from the artillery officers’ course—one ranked third in the class and the other graduated with honors.

Three more participated in the infantry research program last year and asked to move into infantry jobs. They’ll take advanced infantry train-

ing and then report to battalions this fall.

The 167 other female Marines are working in intelligence, logistics or communications, but asked to be moved to front-line combat units.

Neller said he wasn’t surprised that few women are interested in the combat jobs.

“Some of them are not interested at all, some want just to make it gender neutral and we’ll just figure it out,” Neller said. “The majority of them, when you get them together, they say, ‘Look, I’m not really interested in this. I love being a Marine, I like what I’m doing as a Marine. And I’m really not interested in this, but I don’t want you to tell me I can’t try.’”

Marine Corps leaders initially balked at allowing women into certain infantry,

Life & Style

Elie Wiesel, Holocaust survivor and author, dead at 87

NEW YORK (AP)—Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel, the Romanian-born Holocaust survivor whose classic “Night” became a landmark testament to the Nazis’ crimes and launched Wiesel’s long career as one of the world’s foremost witnesses and humanitarians, has died at age 87.

His death was announced Saturday by Israel’s Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. No other details were immediately available.

The short, sad-eyed Wiesel, his face an ongoing reminder of one man’s endurance of a shattering past, summed up his mission in 1986 when accepting the Nobel Peace Prize: “Whenever and wherever human beings endure suffering and humiliation, take sides. Neutrality helps the oppressor, never the victim. Silence encourages the tormentor, never the tormented.”

President Barack Obama said of Wiesel on Saturday, “As a writer, a speaker, an activist, and a thinker, he was one of those people who changed the world more as a citizen of the world than those who hold office or traditional positions of power. His life, and the power of his example, urges us to be better.”

Wiesel’s wife, Marion, described her husband as “a fighter” in a statement Saturday night.

“He fought for the memory of the six million Jews who perished in the Holocaust, and he fought for Israel,” she said. “He waged countless battles for innocent victims regardless of ethnicity or creed.”

For more than a half-century, Wiesel voiced his passionate beliefs to world leaders, celebrities and general audiences in the name of victims of

violence and oppression. He wrote more than 40 books, but his most influential by far was “Night,” a classic ranked with Anne Frank’s diary as standard reading about the Holocaust.

“Night” was his first book, and its journey to publication crossed both time and language. It began in the mid-1950s as an 800-page story in Yiddish, was trimmed to under 300 pages for an edition released in Argentina, cut again to under 200 pages for the French market and finally published in the United States, in 1960, at just over 100 pages.

“Night” is the most devastating account of the Holocaust that I have ever read,” wrote Ruth Franklin, a literary critic and author of “A Thousand Darknesses,” a study of Holocaust literature that was published in 2010.

“There are no epiphanies in ‘Night. There is no extraneous detail, no analysis, no speculation. There is only a story: Eliezer’s account of what happened, spoken in his voice.”

Wiesel began working on “Night” just a decade after the end of World War II, when memories were too raw for many survivors to even try telling their stories. Frank’s diary had been an accidental success, a book discovered after her death, and its entries end before Frank and her family was captured and deported. Wiesel’s book was among the first popular accounts written by a witness to the very worst, and it documented what Frank could hardly have imagined.

“Night” was so bleak that publishers doubted it would appeal to readers. In a 2002 interview with the Chicago Tribune, Wiesel recalled that the book attracted little notice



In this Feb. 25, 2010 file photo, President Barack Obama presents the 2009 National Humanities Medal to Elie Wiesel, in the East Room of the White House in Washington. Wiesel, the Nobel laureate and Holocaust survivor has died. His death was announced Saturday, July 2, 2016 by Israel’s Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial.

at first. “The English translation came out in 1960, and the first printing was 3,000 copies. And it took three years to sell them. Now, I get 100 letters a month from children about the book. And there are many, many million copies in print.”

In one especially haunting passage, Wiesel sums up his feelings upon arrival in Auschwitz:

“Never shall I forget that night, the first night in camp, which has turned my life into one long night, seven times cursed and seven times sealed. Never shall I forget that smoke. Never shall I forget the little faces of the children, whose bodies I saw turned

into wreaths of smoke beneath a silent blue sky. ... Never shall I forget these things, even if I am condemned to live as long as God Himself. Never.”

“Night” was based directly on his experiences, but structured like a novel, leading to an ongoing debate over how to categorize it. Alfred Kazin was among the critics who expressed early doubts about the book’s accuracy, doubts that Wiesel denounced as “a mortal sin in the historical sense.” Wiesel’s publisher called the book a memoir even as some reviewers called it fiction. An Amazon editorial review labeled the book “technically a novel,” albeit so close to Wi-

out-of-control productions, and a cautionary tale for giving artistic-minded directors too much power in the new Hollywood that had been defined by directors such as Francis Ford Coppola and Martin Scorsese.

Its initial budget of \$11.5 million would balloon to \$44 million after marketing. While those numbers are meager by today’s standards, at the time they were enough to hasten the demise of United Artists, and of Cimino’s career. Some say it helped bring down the director-driven renaissance that had fueled much of the great work of the 1970s, giving way to a business-and-blockbuster

esel’s life that “it’s generally - and not inaccurately - read as an autobiography.”

In 2006, a new translation returned “Night” to the best-seller lists after it was selected for Oprah Winfrey’s book club. But the choice also revived questions about how to categorize the book. Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com, both of which had listed “Night” as fiction, switched it to nonfiction. Wiesel, meanwhile, acknowledged in a new introduction that he had changed the narrator’s age from “not quite 15” to Wiesel’s real age at the time, 15.

“Unfortunately, ‘Night’ is an imperfect ambassador for the infallibility of the memoir,” Franklin wrote, “owing to the fact that it has been treated very often as a novel.”

Wiesel’s prolific stream of speeches, essays and books, including two sequels to “Night” and more than 40 books overall of fiction and nonfiction, emerged from the helplessness of a teenager deported from Hungary, which had annexed his native Romanian town of Sighet, to Auschwitz. Tattooed with the number A-7713, he was freed in 1945—but only after his mother, father and one sister had all died in Nazi camps. Two other sisters survived.

After the liberation of Buchenwald, in April 1945, Wiesel spent a few years in a French orphanage, then landed in Paris. He studied literature and philosophy at the Sorbonne, and then became a journalist, writing for the French newspaper L’Arche and Israel’s *Yediot Achronot*.

French author Francois Mauriac, winner of the 1952 Nobel in literature, encouraged

aged Wiesel to break his vowed silence about the concentration camps and start sharing his experiences.

In 1956, Wiesel traveled on a journalistic assignment to New York to cover the United Nations. While there, he was struck by a car and confined to a wheelchair for a year. He became a lifetime New Yorker, continuing in journalism writing for the Yiddish-language newspaper, the Forward. His contact with the city’s many Holocaust survivors shored up Wiesel’s resolve to keep telling their stories.

Wiesel became a U.S. citizen in 1963. Six years later, he married Marion Rose, a fellow Holocaust survivor who translated some of his books into English. They had a son, Shlomo. Based in New York, Wiesel commuted to Boston University for almost three decades, teaching philosophy, literature and Judaic studies and giving a popular lecture series in the fall.

Wiesel also taught at Yale University and the City University of New York.

In 1978, he was chosen by President Carter to head the President’s Commission on the Holocaust, and plan an American memorial museum to Holocaust victims. Wiesel wrote in a report to the president that the museum must include denying the Nazis a posthumous victory, honoring the victims’ last wishes to tell their stories. He said that although all the victims of the Holocaust were not Jewish, all Jews were victims. Wiesel advocated that the museum emphasize the annihilation of the Jews, while still remembering the others; today the exhibits and archives reflects that.

project worth undertaking.

“I never second-guess myself,” he told *Vanity Fair* in 2010. “You can’t look back. I don’t believe in defeat. Everybody has bumps, but as Count Basie said, ‘It’s not how you handle the hills, it’s how you handle the valleys.’”

Eastwood, a lifelong friend, also defended him in *Vanity Fair*.

“George Lucas made ‘Howard the Duck,’ and the guy who made ‘Waterworld’ - those films didn’t destroy them,” Eastwood said. “Critics were set up to hate ‘Heaven’s Gate.’ The picture didn’t work with the public. If it had, it would have been the same as ‘Titanic.’ ‘Titanic’ worked, so all is forgiven.”

‘Deer Hunter,’ ‘Heaven’s Gate’ director Michael Cimino dies

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Michael Cimino, the Oscar-winning director whose film “The Deer Hunter” became one of the great triumphs of Hollywood’s 1970s heyday, and whose disastrous “Heaven’s Gate” helped bring that era to a close, has died.

Cimino died Saturday at age 77, Los Angeles County acting coroner’s Lt. B. Kim told The Associated Press. He said Cimino had been living in Beverly Hills but did not yet have further details on the circumstances of his death.

Eric Weissmann, a friend and former lawyer of Cimino’s, said friends had been unable to reach Cimino by phone

for the last few days and called the police, who found him dead in his bed. He said Cimino had not been ill that he had known of.

Cimino’s masterpiece was 1978’s “The Deer Hunter,” the story of the Vietnam War’s effect on a small steel-working town in Pennsylvania. The film won five Academy Awards, including Best Picture and Best Director for Cimino. It helped lift the emerging-legends status of Robert De Niro and Meryl Streep. Christopher Walken also won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor.

Roger Ebert, writing in the Chicago Sun-Times, called it “one of the most emotionally shattering films ever made.”

Cimino’s emerging career then took a U-turn with 1980’s “Heaven’s Gate,” a Western starring Kris Kristofferson and Walken that was a critical and financial disaster.

The film became synonymous with over-budget and

mentality that would dominate the decades that followed.

Steven Bach, a former executive vice president at United Artists, documented the production in the 1999 book “Final Cut: Art Money and Ego in the Making of Heaven’s Gate.”

Vincent Canby, the New York Times film critic not known for his harshness, said that the film was an “unqualified disaster” that “fails so completely that you might suspect Mr. Cimino sold his soul to the devil to obtain the success of ‘The Deer Hunter,’ and the devil has just come around to collect.”

But Cimino always stood by the movie as an artistic accomplishment, or at least a

AP Interview: De Havilland breaks silence on sibling feud

PARIS (AP)—Celebrating her 100th birthday Friday, indomitable actress Olivia de Havilland is finally breaking her silence on Hollywood's most famous sibling rivalry.

In a rare interview with The Associated Press, one of the last living remnants of Hollywood's Golden Age has disclosed her true feelings about her late sister Joan Fontaine, revealing that she calls her "Dragon Lady."

Posing on a chaise longue in a demure black dress in her Saint James Paris residence, the still-glamorous two-time Oscar winner quipped that only "the pearls are fake," before she agreed to answer more detailed questions via email—her preferred mode of communication because of her failing hearing and vision.

De Havilland said the "legend of a feud" with her sister was first created by an article entitled "Sister Act" in Life Magazine following the 1942 Oscars, where both sisters were nominated for an Academy Award. Fontaine, who was then the lesser known sister, won, for "Suspicion" while de Havilland had been nominated for "Hold Back the Dawn."

"A feud implies continuing hostile conduct between two parties. I cannot think of a single instance wherein I initiated hostile behavior," she said.

"But I can think of many occasions where my reaction to deliberately inconsiderate behavior was defensive," she added.

It is unclear what Fontaine, who died in 2013, would make of the analysis. Describing the 1942 Oscars in her 1978 memoir, "No Bed of Roses," she painted a somewhat different picture.

"All the animus we'd felt to-



U.S. actress Olivia de Havilland poses during an Associated Press interview, in Paris, Saturday, June 18, 2016. AP

ward each other as children, the hair-pullings, the savage wrestling matches, the time Olivia fractured my collarbone, all came rushing back in kaleidoscopic imagery," she wrote.

"My paralysis was total. I felt Olivia would spring across the table and grab me by the hair. I fell age 4, being confronted by my older sister. Damn it, I'd incurred her wrath again!"

De Havilland went on to win two Oscars for "To Each His Own" in 1947 and for "The Heiress" in 1950, but that apparently didn't warm her to her younger sibling. After her 1947 win, Fontaine came forward to congratulate de Havilland and was rebuffed. De Havilland's publicist said at the time: "This goes back for years and years, ever since they were children."

De Havilland has mainly kept her silence on her version of events, but in the AP

interview called the memories of her sister "multi-faceted, varying from endearing to alienating."

"On my part, it was always loving, but sometimes estranged and, in the later years, severed," she said, succinctly.

"Dragon Lady, as I eventually decided to call her, was a brilliant, multi-talented person, but with an astigmatism in her perception of people and events which often caused her to react in an unfair and even injurious way," she said.

What would she say to her if her sister were alive to celebrate her 100th birthday today?

"If Dragon Lady were alive today (for my birthday), out of self-protection I would maintain my silence!" she declared, revealing perhaps that not everything has been forgiven.

For her years, de Havilland is in surprisingly good health,

and has a keen sense of humor—even calling her interviewer a "rascal" for one too probing question.

Though age-related macular degeneration has damaged her vision, the centenarian is still able to read black and white printed text clearly and answer written interview questions.

She climbs stairs regularly every day in her luxurious Paris residence, and linked the secret to her longevity to three L's: "love, laughter, and learning."

Revisiting one of her most famous roles, de Havilland explained why she went for the role of Melanie Hamilton from "Gone With The Wind," and not Scarlett O'Hara that many top actresses were vying for.

"Scarlett did not interest me as she epitomized the 'New Woman' who was self-sustaining, like myself. Melanie, on the other hand, was more traditional," she explained.

"Most of all, I wanted to be part of "Gone With The Wind" as I sensed that the film would have a much longer life than others—perhaps as long as five years!" she quipped.

De Havilland has the City of Light to thank for happiness and calls Paris "a marvelous development in my life."

Since moving here in 1953, "at the insistence" of her late husband, Frenchman Pierre Galante, she found no reason to return to the U.S. She has remained active with the American community here, centered around Paris' American Cathedral, who she said is made up of "fascinating and worthwhile people."

"By 1951, television had already made such inroads on the income garnered by motion picture companies that the Golden Era which had pre-

vailed until then was beginning to disintegrate. And by 1953, it had come to an end. Hollywood was a dismal, tragic place," she said.

"(Sexism) was a fact of life I simply had to accept. Men felt threatened and mistrustful of women who had good ideas, and one had to employ immense tact when dealing with directors and producers," she said.

"As to remuneration for one's work, women were resigned to receiving less financial compensation than a man for their work," she said.

De Havilland was not resigned, however, to all the Hollywood ways of functioning.

The steely actress famously gave her name to a landmark legal ruling—the de Havilland law—after she took Warner Brothers to court in 1943 over a contract dispute and won, forever loosening the studios' grip on their actors and actresses.

"As soon as my victory was legally confirmed and I was free to choose the films that I made, Paramount presented me with the script of "To Each His Own"... This was exactly the kind of challenge for which I fought that case," she said with pride. De Havilland went on to win her first Academy Award for this role, a further vindication of her legal battle.

Looking back, de Havilland highlighted one of the main drawbacks of her unusual longevity.

"All the artists I had known during the Golden Era (live) elsewhere," she said, "including the after world."

Friends admit 'living it up' isn't all it's cracked up to be

DEAR ABBY: I'm sick when I read about girls in great relationships who feel like they are trapped and they need to live life. They throw away a great relationship with someone who loves them. How is dumping someone who loves you "living it up"?

I met my husband in high school and we went to parties, nightclubs and traveled -- always together. We had each other's backs and pushed each other to achieve what we wanted. And the best part was, I had my best friend with me during all of my greatest life moments.

Now, after 23 years of marriage, I hear stories from my women friends who dumped their guys in order to live it up and now wish they never had. They ALL said: "Guess what you get with a one-night stand? You get left with disappointment because the guy doesn't know what you like in bed or gives you an STD." And while they were "living life," the boyfriend they loved and wish they had back found someone else.

So, all of you out there who think you're not living life: It's not because of the guy you're with. It's YOU holding yourself back. Try life with your partner and see what happens before you throw it all away for a one-night stand you'll most likely regret.

LIVING LIFE IN WISCONSIN

DEAR LIVING LIFE: When a young woman writes to me saying she feels trapped and wants to live life, what it indicates to me is that the person either isn't getting what she needs from her boyfriend or that she's not mature enough to settle down.

Mature individuals realize that compromise is necessary in successful relationships, but these young women appear to prefer to gamble on all or nothing. I'm sharing your wisdom with them, but I'm not at all certain they will appreciate it.

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I have a good marriage and two well-behaved kids who are good students and active in our community. Our 8-year-old son is very much the rule follower in school and outside activities, but cheats when playing board or card games with me or his sister at home.

When I catch him doing it, I end the game and tell him I won't play with him if he's going to cheat. My wife believes the cheating is "just for fun" and that I'm being too hard on him. I say the lesson I'm teaching him is that cheating is wrong.

We agree we are fortunate this happens only at home, but I'm concerned that if it is left unchecked, it will be regarded as permissible and it will escalate to become a problem in other circumstances. What do you think? Should I let up?

VIRGINIA DAD

DEAR ABBY
By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



DEAR DAD: No, stick to your guns. And the next time you catch your son cheating, impress upon him that if others catch him at it, they not only won't want to play games with him, but also may not want to be friends with him.

CONFIDENTIAL TO MY READERS: Happy Fourth of July, everyone. Celebrate safely! Love, Abby

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Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up, together with NMHC's employment application form, during regular working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan during regular working hours, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI and austerity holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit the NMHC Employment Application Form together with required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification. NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, July 6, 2016, OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED no later than July 6, 2016, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

For inquiries, please contact Ms. Jocelyn C. Seman, Office Manager at (670) 234-9447/7689 or by email to officemanager@nmhcgov.net. NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

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Corporate Director

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OSMAN OSMAN) FCD-DI CIVIL ACTION
Petitioner,) NO. 16-0276
)
vs.) SUMMONS FOR
TAKISANG BABRA) PUBLICATION
)
Respondent,)

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505464 CK, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 15th day of June, 2016.

/s/ Clerk of Court

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Djokovic's 30-match Slam streak ends at Wimbledon

LONDON (AP)—Facing yet another critical point during a match he never controlled, Novak Djokovic stretched for a half-volley drop winner, held up his right index finger—reminding the world, “I’m No. 1!”—then threw an uppercut and bellowed.

Perhaps this was the moment everyone kept expecting as he tried to dig himself out of a daunting deficit against 41st-ranked Sam Querrey in the third round at Wimbledon. Perhaps this was a sign that Djokovic was rediscovering the consistency, efficiency and excellence he maintained for more than a year on tennis’s most important stages.

To wit: Djokovic had won 30 consecutive Grand Slam matches, carrying him to four consecutive Grand Slam titles, the longest such run by a man in nearly a half-century. He didn’t just appear to be unbeatable at the majors. He was.

No longer. His magical streaks are gone, including two successive titles at the All England Club and 28 Grand Slam quarterfinal appearances in a row, all brought to a sudden, stunning end by a player who has never participated in a major quarterfinal. With 31 aces against as good a returner as there is, Querrey did what no one else could for so long, beating Djokovic 7-6 (6), 6-1, 3-6, 7-6 (5) in a match interrupted Saturday by three rain delays after being suspended in progress because of show-



ers a night earlier.

“He just overpowered me,” was Djokovic’s simple assessment.

Djokovic was stopped halfway to the first calendar-year Grand Slam by a man since Rod Laver’s in 1969.

“I believe in positive things in life, and I managed to win four Grand Slams in a row - two different seasons, though. I want to try to focus on that,” Djokovic said, “rather than failure.”

His last loss at any major came against Stan Wawrin-

ka in the French Open final in June 2015. Since then, Djokovic won Wimbledon last July, the U.S. Open in September, the Australian Open in January and the French Open last month, raising his Slam total to 12.

Late in Djokovic’s second-round victory Wednesday, he slipped and fell to his back, but he appeared to be OK at the time. Against Querrey, he rarely seemed to be himself,

and afterward, was asked whether he was 100 percent healthy.

“Not really,” Djokovic replied, “but it’s not the place and time to talk about it.”

Only Laver, in 1962 and 1969, and Don Budge, in 1938, won all four major championships in one year.

“That was sort of quite a surprise, seeing Novak getting knocked out. I thought he was going to get the title,” Laver

said in a telephone interview. “I don’t know whether it was the pressure or whether he wasn’t feeling up to full power. ... It didn’t look like he was ready to play a big match.”

Things certainly looked bleak for Djokovic when he dropped the first two sets Friday against Querrey, the first American in 14 years to beat a man ranked No. 1 at a major.

“I’m not going to lie and say going into it I thought I was going to win,” Querrey acknowledged afterward.

Djokovic woke up Saturday

AP

Novak Djokovic of Serbia wipes his face during his men’s singles match against Sam Querrey of the U.S. on day six of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Saturday, July 2, 2016.

—if he’d been able to sleep at all—knowing he needed to win three straight sets to extend his Grand Slam bid.

“He’s on his way to possibly being the best ever,” Querrey said, “and so you know he’s mentally tough, and he was going to come back.”

Djokovic did. Sort of. He took the third set, then went up a break in the fourth at 5-4 by pounding a forehand winner that brought coach Boris Becker to his feet. But serving to even the match at two sets apiece, Djokovic faltered.

That game included two calls against Djokovic which, according to the BBC broadcast, were incorrect—but he was out of challenges and couldn’t ask for a review. Querrey, 0 for 6 on break points in the set until then, converted No. 7 when Djokovic’s poor forehand volley found the net for 5-all.

In the closing tiebreaker, Djokovic led 3-1, but Querrey hung in there, and a stray forehand by the big favorite sailed wide to end it.

“Probably not the best he’s ever played,” said Querrey, who plays France’s Nicolas Mahut next, “but not the worst he’s ever played.”

Horford picks Celtics, agreeing to \$113M deal



BOSTON (AP)—Al Horford ended the waiting game with a simple tweet: “Celtic Pride,” it said, followed by 18 shamrocks.

The number might not have been a coincidence.

A franchise with 17 NBA championships may have gotten closer to contending for an 18th on Saturday, when Horford decided to accept a four-year, \$113 million offer to join the Boston Celtics. Horford made the announcement on Twitter, and the terms of the detail were confirmed to The Associated Press by a person with direct knowledge of the negotiations.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because no deals can be finalized until at least July 7 under league rules.

Horford wasted no time in changing his Twitter bio, which now says he is “Boston Celtics star Forward/Center Al Horford.” And the reactions came in swiftly as well, after one of the biggest prizes in this year’s free-agent sweepstakes decid-

ed to leave Atlanta.

“Let’s get it,” Celtics guard Isaiah Thomas wrote.

The Celtics won 48 games last season, finishing in a four-way tie for the third-best record in the Eastern Conference. They have a strong young core already, a highly regarded coach in Brad Stevens, and had the money to land a huge free agent.

Horford’s announcement came on the same day that the Celtics met with Kevin Durant in New York, even bringing New England Patriots star quarterback Tom Brady along for that meeting to help sell the virtues of playing in New England.

No such fanfare was needed for Horford - just an average salary of about \$28 million a year for the next four years.

Horford also met with the Washington Wizards as well as the Hawks, the team that drafted him and the team he’s now leaving. Horford spent his first nine NBA seasons in Atlanta, but the Hawks agreed to terms with Dwight Howard and Kent Bazemore on big-money deals, leaving them little room for

their centerpiece.

Atlanta could have made a trade or two to create enough room to keep him as well, but by Saturday Horford was already starting to look elsewhere.

The four-time All-Star aver-

aged 15.2 points and 7.3 rebounds last season. He gives the Celtics a formidable presence on both ends of the floor as they try to vault into the top tier of the East.

After Durant, Horford may have been the most impactful

unrestricted free agent who was considered even somewhat available. LeBron James certainly would top that list, but he told media in Cleveland at the team’s celebration parade that he planned to remain with the Cavaliers after leading them to the championship.

Horford has established himself as the ideal big man

for the new era, a versatile player who can shoot from range, move the ball and provide top-notch defense. He has played center with Atlanta but also has the capability to slide to power forward in bigger lineups, giving his coaches multiple options to help them match up with opponents.

Mavs plan max offer sheet for Warriors’ Barnes

DALLAS (AP)—The Mavericks have informed representatives of Golden State’s Harrison Barnes that they intend to sign the restricted free agent to an offer sheet for a four-year, \$95 million contract, two people with knowledge of Dallas’ plans said Saturday.

The people spoke to The Associated Press about the potential maximum contract on the condition of anonymity because no deals can be signed before July 7. The Warriors can match any deal for Barnes and are more likely to do so if they don’t get an agreement with Kevin Durant.

Durant, a four-time scor-

ing champion and 2014 NBA MVP with Oklahoma City, has held meetings with the Thunder, Warriors, Los Angeles Clippers, San Antonio and Boston. He’s expected to meet with Miami on Sunday.

Barnes was the fourth-leading scorer behind Stephen Curry, Klay Thompson and Draymond Green for the 73-win Warriors, who lost to Cleveland in the NBA Finals. The 6-foot-8 forward is a potential replacement for Chandler Parsons, who has agreed to sign with Memphis.

The Mavericks’ plan, first reported by ESPN, comes a day after their top two targets in free agency, Memphis

guard Mike Conley and Miami center Hassan Whiteside, decided to stay with their current teams. Parsons, Conley and Whiteside are getting max contracts.

It’s the fifth straight year that Dallas has missed on its primary plans for free agency since choosing financial flexibility over keeping key pieces of the team that won the franchise’s only championship in 2011. The Mavericks haven’t won a playoff series since their title season.

Dallas made Conley and Whiteside their priorities over Parsons, who missed all but one playoff game in two seasons with the Mavericks because of injuries to his right

knee. The first was more serious, requiring surgery that pushed his rehab into the start of last season.

As Parsons was rounding into form with the playoffs drawing near, he sustained another right knee injury that required more surgery but wasn’t considered as serious.

Barnes isn’t as versatile as Parsons but could give the Mavericks another 3-point threat to go with shooting guard Wesley Matthews and star Dirk Nowitzki. The big German opted out of the final year of his three-year contract but is expected to re-sign with Dallas, where the 38-year-old has spent all of his 18 seasons.

Angels crush Red Sox behind Cron's 6 hits



(A P)—
A n g e l s
pitcher
Hector Santiago was sitting in the dugout during his team's 11-run seventh inning Saturday night when he showed teammate Daniel Nava something new painted on his left cleat.

"Look at these, bro," he recalled telling Nava, pointing down to a shoe a friend brought him for the game. It had the Rally Monkey—a staple of the club's home games—airbrushed on the side.

Expect Santiago to keep wearing the new spikes.

C.J. Cron went 6 for 6 with two homers and five RBIs, Carlos Perez had five hits and drove in six and Los Angeles wallop the Boston Red Sox 21-2 to end a four-game losing streak.

Albert Pujols hit his 575th career homer —a two-run shot—and had five RBIs for the Angels, who had lost 10 of their last 11 games.

"There's no doubt a game like this is fun," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "It comes at a good time just too hopefully get a little momentum going and hopefully we'll carry it over to tomorrow."

Cron and Perez each homered during the 11-run seventh. They are the first set of teammates with at least five hits and five RBIs in the same game since Gene Moore and Buck Jordan for the Boston Braves in 1936, according to ESPN.

Blue Jays 9, Indians 6

In Toronto, Cleveland's franchise-record 14-game winning streak was snapped by a 9-6 loss to Toronto on Saturday, with the Blue Jays scoring three runs in the eighth to overcome a cycle



Boston Red Sox's Christian Vazquez, right, cannot handle the throw, allowing Los Angeles Angels' C.J. Cron (24) to score on a sacrifice fly by Andrelton Simmons during the second inning of a baseball game in Boston, Saturday, July 2, 2016.

by Rajai Davis.

Edwin Encarnacion and Troy Tulowitzki also homered for Toronto, which lost 2-1 in 19 innings on Friday, matching the longest game in Blue Jays history.

Mets 4, Cubs 3

In New York, Jake Arrieta lost a regular-season road start for the first time in 14 months when Neil Walker hit a two-run homer and Travis d'Arnaud blooped a two-run single that pushed the Mets to their third straight win over the Cubs.

Bartolo Colon (7-4) out-pitched the NL Cy Young Award winner. He allowed two runs and four hits in six innings.

Dodgers 6, Rockies 1

In Los Angeles, Scott Kazmir pitched six scoreless innings, Trayce Thompson and Adrian Gonzalez drove in two runs each and Los Angeles got its eighth straight home victory.

Kazmir (7-3) extended his unbeaten streak to 10 starts by holding the Rockies to a single and two doubles.

Padres 2, Yankees 1

In San Diego, Melvin Upton Jr. homered on the first pitch of the ninth to give San Diego a walk-off win.

It was the third game-ending homer of the year for Upton.

Mariners 12, Orioles 6

In Seattle, Mike Zunino hom-

ered twice in his first game of the season, Nelson Cruz and Seth Smith both hit three-run home runs and Seattle slugged past Baltimore.

Cruz staked Seattle to a 3-0 lead with his 21st homer of the season in the first inning off Baltimore starter Tyler Wilson (4-6).

Pirates 4, Athletics 2

In Oakland, David Freese hit a go-ahead single in the top of the 10th inning, and Pittsburgh got its third straight win.

Juan Nicasio (6-6) struck out two in the ninth for the victory.

Twins 17, Rangers 5

In Minneapolis, Max Kepler

homered twice and set a Twins rookie record by driving in seven runs.

Eduardo Nunez had four hits for the Twins, who scored at least three runs in four of the first five innings.

Braves 9, Marlins 1

In Atlanta, Freddie Freeman homered to help Atlanta hand Marlins ace Jose Fernandez one of the worst starts of his career.

The six earned runs matched Fernandez's career high and equaled the six he allowed in five starts in June, when he had a 1.67 ERA.

Tigers 3, Rays 2

In St. Petersburg, Justin Ver-

Day, Piercy tied for lead at Bridgestone

AKRON, Ohio (AP)—Jason Day had no indication that Saturday at the Bridgestone Invitational would be such hard work until one swing.

BRIDGESTONE
INVITATIONAL

His plan was to hit a draw with his driver, and the shot started out to the right. Trouble is, it kept going to the right until he was deep in the trees.

"That came out of nowhere," Day said. "It wasn't just down the right. It was way right. I think it's more of a mental thing when it comes to those ones because when you're sharp and you're on your game and you're hitting

it great, you don't miss them that far."

It didn't help that he missed again on the next hole. And

then the next one. Or that he hit only

three fairways on a Firestone course that demands more.

Day still managed to turn that into a 1-under 69 to share the lead with Scott Piercy.

"I felt like Mr. Haverkamp out of 'Caddyshack' trying to find his golf ball and not knowing where the golf hole goes," Day said.

But he could find the bottom of the cup, including three par putts of at least 8 feet.

Piercy, coming off a runner-up finish in the U.S. Open two weeks ago at Oakmont, quickly tied Day for the lead with an eagle on the par-5 second hole and was flawless until the final hole.

He had a one-shot lead until pulling his tee shot into the left rough, running a low shot through the green and into a back bunker, and having to scramble just to escape with a bogey and a 67.

They were at 5-under 205, the highest 54-hole score at this World Golf Championship since 2007.

Only nine players remained under par, and given the firm conditions of Firestone, Day believes all of them have a chance.

David Lingmerth of Sweden had a 69 and was one shot behind. The big move Saturday belonged to U.S. Open champion Dustin Johnson, who hits it a long way and has a short memory.

After warming up on the range, Johnson said he was ready for a great round of golf, adding that "I'm due." The smile suggested he did recall that he played decently at Oakmont two weeks ago.

Johnson was 5 under through 11 holes and closing in on the lead when he played the final seven holes in 1 over for a 66. Still, that was enough to get him to 2-under 208, three shots behind, along with Charl Schwartzel (67) and William McGirt (70).

Justin Thomas and Emil-

iano Grillo, buddies from their junior golf days, were another shot back. Thomas was in much better position until his wedge shot found the water on the par-5 16th, and his fifth shot after a penalty drop nearly went in for a par. Thomas then missed a 4-foot putt for double bogey.

The 16th also got the best of Jordan Spieth in a big way. Spieth was starting to make putts when he debated whether to hit 3-wood on the 654-yard 16th hole, thinking he could keep it away from the water and try to make his birdie from the rough. He played it smartly instead by laying up, only it didn't quite work out that way.

His third shot came up just short and into the water. His next shot went over the green and he couldn't get up-and-down, making triple bogey.

Spieth said his caddie talked him out of the 3-wood, and he agreed.

"The big number only comes into play with a 3-wood," he said. "It really was the right decision. It's just funny how we talked about it like that."

Spieth had another 71 and was five shots behind.

Piercy had no such issues. He holed a bunker shot on the second hole for eagle and didn't have any stress in his round except for the 35-foot par putt he holed from the back fringe on the 14th hole. The final hole cost him the lead, but he is driving it well enough to think he has a strong chance to pick up his fourth career victory.

Germany's worst penalty shootout ends Italian hoodoo

BORDEAUX, France (AP)—Despite missing more penalties in one shootout than it had done in 40 years of taking spot-kicks after extra time, Germany still managed to end its curse against Italy.

Thomas Mueller, Mesut Ozil and Bastian Schweinsteiger all missed in Saturday's shootout after the sides finished 1-1 following extra time in their European Championship quarterfinal.

Fortunately, goalkeeper Manuel Neuer spared their blushes with two saves as Italy missed four spot-kicks and Germany went on to win 6-5, securing the team's first



AP
Germany's Thomas Mueller plays a ball during the Euro 2016 quarterfinal soccer match between Germany and Italy, at the Nouveau Stade in Bordeaux, France, Saturday, July 2, 2016.

competitive victory over the Azzurri at the ninth attempt.

"It was a war of nerves," Neuer said.

Only two German players had ever missed in a tournament shootout before—Uli Hoeneß as West Germany lost the 1976 European Championship final 5-3 to Czechoslovakia, and Uli Stielike as West Germany defeated France 5-4

in the 1982 World Cup semifinal.

It was a dramatic shootout in Bordeaux, featuring 18 spot kicks with neither side striking a decisive blow before it went to 'sudden death.'

"I've never experienced a penalty shootout like it before. It went on for ages. I'm not sure how many penalties there were exactly," Neuer said.

There had been a penalty beforehand too, scored by Leonardo Bonucci in the 78th minute to cancel out Ozil's opener from 13 minutes before.

With extra time almost at an end, Italy coach Antonio Conte brought on penalty specialist Simone Zaza on for Giorgio Chiellini, but the move backfired when he missed after an unconventional trot up to the ball.

Then Mueller's curious failure to score at a European Championship came back to haunt him when his effort was saved by Italy veteran Gianluigi Buffon.

Andrea Barzagli scored before Ozil struck the post, leaving Italy with a 2-1 lead. Then Graziano Pelle dragged his effort wide and Julian Draxler equalized to make it 2-2.

Germany had the advantage when Neuer saved Bonucci's spot kick.

"I didn't want to let Bonucci

score a second time," the Germany goalkeeper said.

But German celebrations were cut short when Schweinsteiger, who could have sealed victory by converting his spot-kick, struck his effort well over.

Neither side missed their next three penalties. Then Neuer saved Matteo Darmian's spot kick, paving the way for Jonas Hector to be the hero with the winning shot.

"I'm delighted that it went in," Hector said. "There weren't many more people there (to take a penalty). I took my heart in my hand and just wanted to make sure it went in."

Hector's strike penalty ended a winless curse against Italy that dated back to their first meeting at the 1962 World Cup.

"After so many years or decades we were due a win against Italy," German football federation president Reinhard Grindel said. "From that point of view, the right ones had the luck that you need in a shootout."

Germany coach Joachim Löw had tried a new tactical setup with a three-man defense, but in the end it was an old friend—the penalty kick—that provided the key to victory.

yesterday .

Guam secured a ticket to Round 2 as it finished the tournament with a perfect 2-0-0 record. The host earlier topped Macau in similar scores last Friday.

The Commonwealth's female strikers faced Macau last Saturday and were held to a scoreless draw. The CNMI had a chance to score and win against Macau, but Diane Pablo muffed a penalty kick with the ball hitting the post.

made one in the sixth off Alerata's single to keep its safe distance, 14-7, but eventually lost the upper hand when it gone cold anew from the seventh to the extra inning. The visiting team after holding a double-digit lead, seemed to play complacent in the homestretch, while the CNMI tightened up its defense. The CNMI went to the last inning in the regulation behind by only 5 after Juan scored off a balk in the seventh and Jones' sacrifice fly brought Jesus home in the eighth.

The CNMI countered at the bottom off Camacho's two-run single, but Guam got the two runs back and added one more, thanks to Miller's two-run homer in the second. Miller then followed his homer with a two-run single in the third to give Guam its biggest lead, as the CNMI failed to score in the second to fourth inning.

Down, but definitely not out, the Commonwealth bets began fighting back in the fifth inning with Jones blasting a two-run single and also scoring off Camacho's single. Peter Tomokane added one run when he reached off Guam's error at shorts stop, while Pat Alepuyo also scored from Tenorio's sacrifice fly, as the CNMI brought the deficit down to 6, 7-13.

Peter Lieto helped shut down Guam, as he took over the mound from second pitcher Joe Palacios midway in the third inning and after Miller made two more RBIs. He allowed only three hits and one earned run, while walking only two in 7.3 innings pitched. The CNMI closer also had four strikeouts.

Sonics compete in PH caging



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Sonics players pose for a photo before they leave Saipan last Thursday to compete in a basketball tournament in the Philippines.

referee Eric Artillaga. We, the 670 Sonics Basketball Association want to extend a huge appreciation to all of our following donors: First Lady Dianne Torres, Rep. Angel Demapan, Rep. Vinnie Sablan, Rep. Ed Propst, Rep. Edmund Villagomez, Sen. Sixto Igisomar,

Rep. BJ Attao, PHI Pharmacy, Best Sunshine, Pacific Islands Club, Pizza Hut, WE>1 Clothing, Island Brand Clothing, Balas Brand Clothing, Rep. Joseph Deleon Guerrero, and Abner Venus," Tudela said in an email to *Saipan Tribune*.

"We also want to thank all

of the 670 Sonics Basketball players in all divisions and their family for their support throughout the fundraisers. We will represent and be CNMI ambassadors while at the same time show PH that our CNMI players can play ball," the head coach added. (PR)

second strike, but the former kept his composure and made the game-tying hit with his shot landing at left field and Guam struggling to pick the ball up, allowing the sprinting Jesus to reach home.

At the bottom, the CNMI had a rough start with Camacho flying out at third base and pitcher Peter Lieto having the same misfortune against Guam shorts stop San Nicolas. Juan was next at bat and kept the Commonwealth's chances with his single.

With Juan at first, all eyes were now focused on Secharmidal. Taijeron's first pitch was a bit high and then he got the strike on his second. The CNMI pitcher was charged with another ball on his third pitch, while Juan stole second. One more outside pitch followed by a strike put more pressure on Secharmidal, who rose to the occasion as he swung and hit his target. The ball was a bit high and headed

out play with Lamarc picking up a grounder and throwing to Kaipat to end the top of the extra inning.

up to first base with Guam's Mike Peredo leaping to catch it. The Guam first baseman had a hand on the leather, but dropped it, allowing Juan to run home and soon pandemonium broke as the CNMI completed the come-from-behind win and clinched the first championship in the four nation competition.

"I just kept my focus despite knowing that one more strike and I am out," Secharmidal said.

Secharmidal and company rallied past Guam after scoring 12 runs in the last five innings of the regulation, while limiting their foes to one run.

Guam, before its monumental collapsed, built a promising 13-2 advantage after four complete innings. Jarred Alerata gave the eventual runner-up a good start with his two-run single at the top of the first. Guam got three more earned

CNMI

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scored off brother Lamarc's single to slice Guam's lead to one, 13-14, with two outs.

The eventual champion was called for the first out after Guam catcher Miller Santos caught a foul ball from Secharmidal, while the visiting team moved one out away from wrapping up the match and completing the upset when pitcher Jay Taijeron struck out second baseman Anthony Tenorio.

Jesus batted ahead of Tenorio and singled, while Jones was next at bat after the latter headed back to their dugout. Jones let go of Taijeron's first pitch, while Jesus stole second. Jones then swung and missed for the first strike before letting go off another outside pitch. Taijeron then caught Jones looking for the

CNMI vs Chinese-Taipei

GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION PHOTOS



Members of the CNMI Men's National Team sing the U.S. national anthem before their game against Chinese-Taipei in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2017 Round 1 last Thursday at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo.



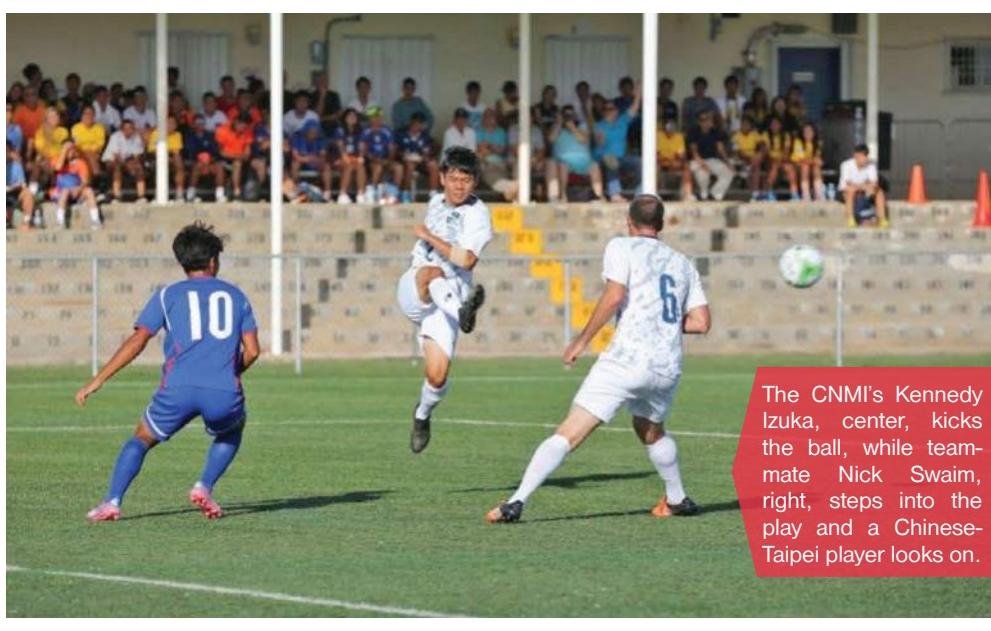
Blue Ayuyus captain Johann Noetzel, right front, shakes hand with his counterpart at Chinese-Taipei, Yi-Wei Chen, before the start of their match.



The CNMI's Enrico Del Rosario, third left, stays close on defense against a Chinese-Taipei player, while Trey Dunn, second left, and Nick Swaim, catch up.



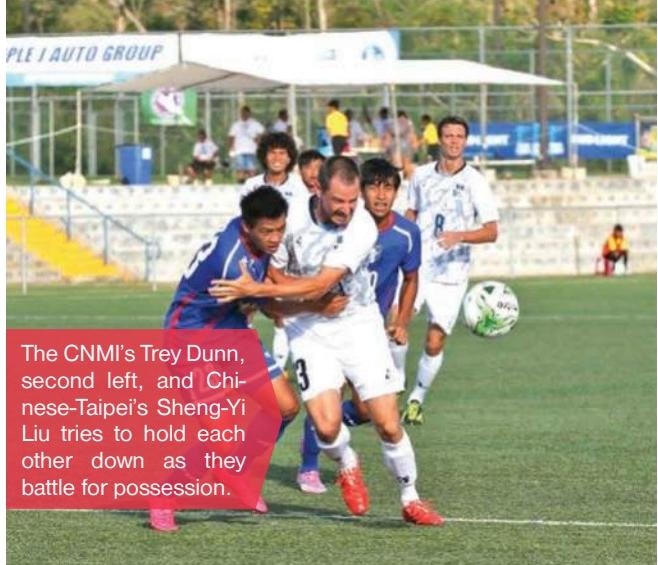
The CNMI's Joel Fruit is up against two Chinese-Taipei defenders.



The CNMI's Kennedy Izuka, center, kicks the ball, while teammate Nick Swaim, right, steps into the play and a Chinese-Taipei player looks on.



CNMI goalie Johann Noetzel slides out to challenge a shot from a Chinese-Taipei player, while Nick Swaim tries to step into the play.



The CNMI's Trey Dunn, second left, and Chinese-Taipei's Sheng-Yi Liu tries to hold each other down as they battle for possession.



The CNMI's Joe Miller dribbles past Chinese-Taipei's Chun-Ching Wu.



The CNMI's Jonathan Takano kicks the ball against two Chinese-Taipei players.



Djokovic's
30-match Slam
streak ends at
Wimbledon

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Saipan Tribune Sports

Angels crush
Red Sox behind
Cron's 6 hits

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

CNMI nips Guam in epic finale



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI All-Stars and their coaches and manager flash the No. 1 sign after ruling the Inaugural Micronesian Baseball Classic last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. The CNMI edged Guam in the finals, 15-14.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

The CNMI All-Stars' Brian Camacho torques for a swing on the way to a solo homer at the bottom of the ninth inning of their title match against Guam in the Inaugural Micronesian Baseball Classic last Friday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI-Guam title match in the Inaugural Micronesian Baseball Classic was one for the ages with the host pulling off a thrilling 15-14 victory in extra inning in front of a jampacked crowd at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield last Friday.

Catcher Verlance Secharmidal, siblings Juan, Lamarc, and Jesus Iguel, John Tudela, Ben Jones, and Brian Cama-

cho played key roles in the CNMI All-Stars' come-from-behind win, which seemed to be very hard to accomplish as



Guam once led by 11 and was still on top, 14-9, going into the bottom of the ninth and last regular inning.

Camacho led off for the Commonwealth in their final push to avert an impending sorry loss—which could have been the team's only defeat after sweeping the round-robin preliminaries and beating Guam in their first two meetings. The designated hitter went on to spark the host's mighty comeback with his solo over-the-fence (in between left and center fields) homer.

The CNMI's next two batters also reached with Juan Iguel's single bringing home John Tudela, who pinch ran for Byron Kaipat. Juan also



GUAM FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION
The CNMI Women's National Team's Jeralyn Castillo tries to keep the ball away from a Macau defender during their game in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2017 Round 1 last Friday at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo.

Griffin gives Blue Ayuyus second goal; women's national team done

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Forward Michah Griffin registered the CNMI Men's National Team's second goal in the Blue Ayuyus 1-3 loss to Macau in the EAFF E-1 Football Championships 2017 Round 1 game last Saturday at the Guam Football Association National Training Center in Dededo.

Griffin made it to the board in the 11th minute with his penalty kick tying the game in the first half. Macau earlier drew a goal from Lam Ka Seng in the ninth minute to take the driver's seat. Lam

had another goal in the 94th minute, while Filipe Miguel Cordeiro Duarte recorded the other goal for Macau.

Griffin was part of the Blue Ayuyus' starting unit, joining captain and goalie Johann Noetzel, Kennedy Izuka, Kirk Schuler, Nick Swaim, Jonathan Takano, Joel Fruit, John Joyner, Darin Kaiser, Trey Dunn, and James Ermitanio.

Evan Belcher, Hunter Jewell, and Allan Hinson were the substitutes.

With the defeat, the CNMI dropped to a 0-0-2 win-draw-loss record and is out of con-

tention in the four-nation competition. The Blue Ayuyus first bowed to Chinese-Taipei, 1-8, last Thursday, and will close out their campaign in the East Asian Football Federation-sanctioned tournament today when they face Mongolia at 2:30pm.

Chinese-Taipei and Macau will play in the last match of the tournament at 5pm with the Taiwanese win giving them the slot to be played this November.

Chinese-Taipei, going into

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